

INSIDE TODAY

U.S. NEWS

PAPER CHASE



Protesters gather Thursday, July 29, 2010 in Phoenix to rally against Arizona's new immigration law, SB1070. *Read more on Page A5*

SPORTS NEWS

LIGHTNING BOLT



Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt attends a training session next to the Eiffel Tower in Paris, Thursday, July 15, 2010.

Read more on Page A15

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As many as 6,600 military graves mixed up

ANNE FLAHERTY

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP)—Estimates of the number of graves that might be affected by mix-ups at Arlington National Cemetery grew from hundreds to as many as 6,600 on Thursday, as the U.S. cemetery's former superintendent blamed his staff and a lack of resources for the scandal that forced his ouster.

John Metzler, who ran the historic military burial ground for 19 years, said he accepts "full responsibility" for the problems.

The cemetery for veterans and war dead ranging from the Civil War of the 1860s to the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan is located across the Potomac River from Washington and includes the graves of dignitaries such as President John F. Kennedy.

Continued on Next Page



A U.S. Air Force firing party attends the funeral of U.S. Air Force Maj. Randell D. Voas, Thursday, July 29, 2010, at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Va. Estimates of the number of graves that might be affected by mix-ups at Arlington National Cemetery grew from hundreds to as many as 6,600 on Thursday, as the cemetery's former superintendent blamed his staff and a lack of resources for the scandal that forced his ouster.

Associated Press

Body of 2nd Navy sailor recovered

AMIR SHAH

DEB RIECHMANN

Associated Press Writers

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — The discovery of the body of a second U.S. sailor who vanished in Afghanistan last week only deepened the mystery of the men's disappearance nearly 60 miles from their base in a dangerous area controlled by

the Taliban.

An investigation is under way, but with both sailors dead, U.S. authorities remained at a loss Thursday to explain what two junior enlisted men in noncombat jobs were doing driving alone in Logar province, where much of the countryside is not under government control.

Continued on Page 8



This photo, displayed on a leaflet that was distributed by the U.S. military to civilians in Logar province, east of Kabul, Afghanistan, on July 25, 2010 shows a missing U.S. Navy sailor. The Navy identified the missing sailor as Petty Officer 3rd Class Jarod Newlove, a 25-year-old from the Seattle area.

Associated Press

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Obama signs war spending bill to pay for surge



President Barack Obama signs a supplemental spending bill at his desk in the Oval Office at the White House in Washington, Thursday, July 29, 2010.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama signed legislation Thursday to pay for his troop increase for the war in Afghanistan, even though it was stripped of money for domestic stimulus programs he wanted. Congress passed the bill Tuesday and Obama signed it without public remarks in a low-keyed Oval Office session. Democratic leaders had to rely on Republican support to pass the \$59 billion measure, which provides money for 30,000 additional troops in Afghanistan and other programs. With Pentagon leaders warning that money for the troops could run out as early as Aug. 7, the House of Representatives accepted the Senate's pared-down version of the legislation. The bill favored by the House would have included billions

of dollars to help keep teachers on the job, provide aid for college students and enhance border security. With the new war spending, the total that Congress has allotted for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan surpasses \$1 trillion. The signing took place just days after the unauthorized release of thousands of classified documents about the war that revealed some of the problems with the mission and with the Afghanistan government. Obama had urged its quick passage despite the publication of the sensitive battlefied reports that reignited debate over the war. Obama requested the emergency war money in February. After the Senate passed it in May, the House approved its own version on July 1 after adding more than \$20 billion in domestic spending. The

Senate last week rejected that approach, falling 14 votes short of what was needed to break a Republican-led delaying tactic. The bill includes more than \$33.5 billion for the additional 30,000 troops in Afghanistan and to pay for other Pentagon operational expenses, \$5.1 billion to replenish the Federal

Emergency Management Agency disaster relief fund, \$6.2 billion for State Department aid programs in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iraq and Haiti, and \$13.4 billion in benefits for Vietnam veterans exposed to Agent Orange. In addition to stripping out money for teachers and student aid, the final bill does

not include an administration request for more than \$4 billion to finance settlements of long-standing lawsuits against the government, including \$1.2 billion to remedy discrimination by the Agriculture Department against black farmers and \$3.4 billion for mismanaging Indian trust funds. □

But Metzler also denied some of the findings by Army investigators and suggested cemetery employees and poor technology were to blame for remains that may have been misidentified or misplaced. He said the system used to track grave sites relied mostly on a complicated paper trail vulnerable to error. "Personally it is very painful for me that our team at Arlington did not perform all aspects of its mission to the high standard required," he told a Senate panel. He was subpoenaed to testify.

Metzler and his deputy, Thurman Higginbotham, were forced to retire after Army investigators found that as many as 211 graves were unmarked or misidentified. The report by the Army Inspector General's office accused Metzler of repeatedly failing to ensure burials were being done properly and of failing to respond after unmarked graves were discovered. Sen. Claire McCaskill, chairwoman of an oversight panel on the Senate Homeland Security and Government Reform Committee, said Thursday that her investigation has revealed far higher estimates of the number of graves affected. McCaskill, a Democrat, said she believes that between 4,900 and 6,600 graves may be unmarked or mislabeled on cemetery maps. Kathryn Condon, who was



Former Arlington National Cemetery Superintendent John Metzler testifies on Capitol Hill in Washington, Thursday, July 29, 2010, before the Senate Contracting Oversight subcommittee hearing to examine contract mismanagement at Arlington National Cemetery.

Associated Press

hired to fix the cemetery's problems, testified that the Army was still trying to determine exactly how many burial sites could be affected. But, she said, "I am confident there are probably other map errors" beyond the 211 sites initially identified by Army investigators. Metzler said an inspector general finding that more than 100 graves lacked a headstone or burial card was not entirely accurate and that it was mostly internal working maps used by cemetery employees that were mislabeled. Metzler insisted that discrepancies on those maps wouldn't necessarily affect operations. He also said any problems

that came up over the years were quickly fixed and suggested he was surprised by the findings of the Army's Inspector General. His testimony angered and confused lawmakers. "The notion that you would come in here and act like you didn't know about it until a month ago is offensive. You did know about it, and you did nothing," McCaskill said. Higginbotham testified in general about his tenure at the cemetery but left the hearing early after asserting his constitutional right not to respond to many of the lawmakers' more pointed questions. As deputy superintendent who ran day-to-day operations at the cemetery, Higginbotham is accused of directly contributing to the chaos. While Army officials have described Metzler as an ineffective manager who turned a blind eye to the cemetery's problems, investigators accuse Higginbotham of botching contracts and creating an "unhealthy organizational climate" for employees. □

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Ousted employee Sherrod plans to sue blogger

SAN DIEGO (AP) — A woman who was ousted from her job at the Agriculture Department said Thursday she will sue a conservative blogger who posted an edited video of her making racially tinged remarks last week.

The edited video posted by Andrew Breitbart led Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack to ask Shirley Sherrod to resign, a decision he reconsidered after seeing the entire video of her March speech to a local National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) civil rights group. In the full speech, Sherrod spoke of racial reconciliation and lessons she learned after initially hesitating to help a white farmer save his home.

She said she doesn't want an apology from Breitbart for posting the video that took her comments out of context, but told a crowd at the National Association of Black Journalists annual convention that she would "definitely

sue."

Vilsack and President Barack Obama later called Sherrod to apologize for her hasty ouster. Vilsack has offered her a new job at the department, which she is still considering.

"I have many, many questions before I can make a decision," Sherrod told the group. "I don't know what will happen from this day forward in terms of whether I'll be back in the department or what I'll do." Breitbart did not immediately respond to a call or e-mails seeking comment.

He has said he posted the portion of the speech where she expresses reservations about helping the white farmer to prove that racism exists in the NAACP, which had just demanded that the tea party movement renounce any bigoted elements. Some members of the NAACP audience appeared to approve when Sherrod described her reluctance to help the farmer. Obama said Thursday morning on the daytime talk show "The View" that the incident shows

Ousted

Agriculture Department employee Shirley Sherrod listens during a panel discussion at the National Association of Black Journalists Annual Convention Thursday, July 29, 2010 in San Diego. Sherrod said Thursday she will sue conservative blogger Andrew Breitbart who posted an edited video of her making racially tinged remarks last week. In the full speech, Sherrod spoke of racial reconciliation and lessons she learned after initially hesitating to help a white farmer save his home.

Associated Press

racial tensions still exist in America.

"There are still inequalities out there. There's still discrimination out there," Obama said. "But we've made progress."

Obama pinned much of the blame for the incident on a media culture that he said seeks out conflict and doesn't always get the facts right. But he added, "A lot of people overreacted, including people in my administration." □

Troops headed to U.S.-Mexico border by mid-August

ALICIA A. CALDWELL

Associated Press Writer

EL PASO, Texas (AP) — The first National Guard troops headed to the Mexican border to help federal agents look for illegal border crossers and smugglers are expected to be in place in Texas and New Mexico by mid-August, military officials said Thursday.

The troops deployed to the border will spend about a year there, but will not make arrests.

"We're just there in a support role," California National Guard 1st Lt. Patrick Bagley said.

President Barack Obama announced the deployment in May amid outcry for better border security and worries that Mexico's

volatile drug war would spill across the border into the United States. More than 24,000 people have been killed across Mexico since President Felipe Calderon launched an offensive against cartels in December 2006. Most recently, a car bomb was detonated in Ciudad Juarez, the drug war's epicenter just across the Rio Grande from El Paso. Three people were killed in the blast. Federal officials announced earlier this month that deployments of about 1,200 National Guard troops would begin Aug. 1, with soldiers initially training and fully in place in September. Officials in New Mexico, Texas and California say they are on track to meet the federal government's timeline. □



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House panel cites lawmaker with 13 violations



Rep. Charles Rangel, D-N.Y., walks to his office after going for a vote on Capitol Hill in Washington, Thursday, July 29, 2010.

STEVEN R. HURST, damage as the House of
Associated Press Writer Representatives on Thursday
WASHINGTON (AP) — opened an ethics trial of one of
Majority Democrats, already its longest-serving members.
facing grim prospects in The ethics storm has built
upcoming congressional around Congressman Charles
elections, could suffer more Rangel of New York for

months, as the House ethics committee investigated allegations of misdeeds.

During a brief opening session, where Rangel was absent, the House investigatory panel alleged he was involved in 13 violations of congressional ethics and federal law.

Later, however, people familiar with the talks say representatives of Rangel and lawyers for the committee had reached a plea deal. Committee members have not agreed to the settlement.

It was not immediately clear how many of the 13 charges of ethical violations Rangel agreed to accept.

The charges include allegations that Rangel failed to report rental income on vacation property in the Dominican Republic and over the course of nearly a decade failed to report more than \$600,000 on his financial disclosure statements. Rep. Michael McCaul, the top Republican on a panel that will try Rangel, said that the Democrat had been “given the opportunity to negotiate a settlement during the investigation phase.”

However, he said, that phase is now over. “We are now in the trial phase,” he said.

Some fellow Democrats already have called for Rangel to resign and prevent the embarrassing public airing of details of the 20-term congressman’s alleged transgressions three months before elections.

Democrats hold a sizable majority in the House, where all members face re-election every two years. But the sagging popularity of President Barack Obama and his fellow Democrats —

under the weight of a stalled economy, stubborn near-10-percent unemployment and voter dissatisfaction with government — have led many to predict that Republicans will take a majority of seats.

The country is awash in anti-incumbent sentiment that has been particularly stirred by the addition of so-called tea party candidates — ultraconservatives who want lower taxes and less government involvement in their lives.

Rangel’s case, damaging to Democrats on its face, further hurts the party among those who recall that House Speaker Nancy Pelosi assumed leadership of the lower chamber of Congress promising to root out the corruption of her Republican predecessors. Shortly before the ethics committee convened to hear the case against Rangel, Pelosi said: “The chips will have to fall where they may politically.”

The speaker said the pursuit of ethics cases was “a serious responsibility that we have.” The committee laid out precise charges against Rangel for the first time.

Speaking to reporters Thursday, Rangel said he survived a Chinese attack as a soldier in North Korea 60 years ago. As a result, he said, “I haven’t had a bad day since.” But Rangel said “today I have to reassess that statement.”

The trial could have gone away if Rangel negotiated a plea bargain, admitting to substantial violations, or resigns his seat.

The subcommittee now must decide whether the charges can be proved by clear and

convincing evidence. Just spelling them, however, carries substantial damage in an election season, especially one that is as riven as this one has become with partisan rancor. Rangel remained noncommittal on whether he was open to a deal to avoid all that. Decisions among fellow Democrats to call for Rangel to quit have become treacherous.

A Democrat who calls for resignation, returns Rangel’s campaign donations or just condemns his conduct risks alienating the Congressional Black Caucus, a key Democratic constituency, which has warned against a rush to judgment.

But if a fellow lawmaker remains silent, he risks being tagged an inside-Washington hypocrite who broke a promise to rid Congress of corruption.

The charges are the equivalent of an indictment, not a conviction. So condemning unproven allegations against Rangel could smack of the very rush to judgment against which the Black Caucus warned.

But for vulnerable Democrats, especially freshmen eager to prove their ethical bona fides to voters, couched statements of condemnation could be beneficial, some Democratic lawmakers and their aides said in interviews — under a cloak of anonymity.

Rangel could face a report criticizing his conduct, a reprimand or censure by the full House or even expulsion — the latter very unlikely in this case. Barring a subsequent plea bargain, the rare ethics trial probably would begin in September. □



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Arizona appeals order blocking immigration law

BOB CHRISTIE

Associated Press Writer

PHOENIX (AP) — Arizona asked an appeals court Thursday to lift a judge's order blocking most of the state's immigration law as the city of Phoenix filled with protesters, including 50 who were arrested for confronting officers in riot gear.

Republican Gov. Jan Brewer called U.S. District Judge Susan Bolton's decision Wednesday halting the law "a bump in the road," and the state appealed to the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco on Thursday. Outside the state Capitol, hundreds of protesters began marching at dawn, gathering in front of the federal courthouse where Bolton issued her ruling on Wednesday. They marched on to the office of Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio, who has made a crackdown on illegal immigration one of his signature issues.

"My deputies will arrest them and put them in pink underwear," Arpaio said, referring to one of his odd methods of punishment for prisoners. "Count on it." Hundreds of people gathered at the door of the county jail, beating on the metal door, and at least 32 people were arrested, including a photographer for

the Arizona Republic.

Dozens of others were arrested throughout the day trying to cross a police line, entering closed-off areas or sitting in the street and refusing to leave. Former state Sen. Alfredo Gutierrez, who ran unsuccessfully for governor in 2002, was among them.

Marchers chanted "Sheriff Joe, we are here, we will not live in fear," and in the crowd was a drummer wearing a papier-mache Sheriff Joe head and dressed in prison garb.

Arpaio vowed to go ahead with a crime sweep targeting illegal immigrants.

The Southwestern state is the U.S. epicenter of illegal immigration, with more than 400,000 undocumented residents. Arizona's border with Mexico is awash with smugglers and drugs that funnel narcotics and immigrants throughout the U.S., and the influx of illegal migrants drains vast sums of money from hospitals, education and other services. Arizona argues that the federal government has failed to secure the border, and that it has a right to take matters into its own hands.

The ruling was anxiously awaited in the U.S. and beyond. About 100 protesters in Mexico City who had

gathered at the U.S. Embassy broke into applause when they learned of the ruling via a laptop computer. Mariana Rivera, a 36-year-old from Zacatecas, Mexico, who is living in Phoenix on a work permit, said she heard about the ruling on a Spanish-language news program.

"I was waiting to hear because we're all very worried about everything that's happening," said Rivera, who phoned friends and family with the news. "Even those with papers, we don't go out at night at certain times there's so much fear (of police). You can't just sit back and relax."

In Tucson, between 50 and 100 people gathered at a downtown street corner to both protest and defend the new law on Thursday morning. Tucson police spokeswoman Linda Galindo said one man was arrested for threatening people in the other group.

In Los Angeles, about 200 protesters invaded a busy intersection west of downtown. Police waited more than three hours before declaring it an unlawful assembly. Most of the demonstrators left peacefully, but about a dozen, linked together with plastic pipes and chains, lay in the street in a circle as an act of civil disobedience. Officer



A group supporting Arizona's immigration law, which opponents say fuels a climate of racism, shout at a coalition of immigrant groups and their supporters calling for a full repeal of the law, Thursday July 29, 2010, in New York.

Bruce Borihanh said police were cutting their chains and taking them away to be booked for failure to disperse.

In New York City, about 300 immigrant advocates gathered Thursday near the federal courthouse in lower Manhattan.

Bolton indicated the government has a good chance at succeeding in its argument that federal immigration law trumps state law. But the key sponsor of Arizona's law, Republican Rep. Russell Pearce, said the judge was wrong and predicted the state would ultimately win the case. In her temporary injunction, Bolton delayed the most contentious provisions of the law, including a section that required officers to check a person's immigration status while enforcing other laws. She also barred enforcement of parts requiring immigrants

to carry their papers and banned illegal immigrants from soliciting employment in public places — a move aimed at day laborers that congregate in large numbers in parking lots across Arizona. The judge also blocked officers from making warrantless arrests of suspected illegal immigrants. Other provisions that were less contentious were allowed to take effect Thursday, including a section that bars cities in Arizona from disregarding federal immigration laws. Opponents of the law said the ruling sends a strong message to other states hoping to replicate the law. Lawmakers or candidates in as many as 18 states say they want to push similar measures when their legislative sessions start up again in 2011. But a lawmaker in Utah said the state will likely take up a similar laws anyway. □

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Al-Qaida plants flag, burns bodies in Iraq attack

REBECCA SANTANA

Associated Press Writer

BAGHDAD(AP)—Militants flew an al-Qaida flag over a Baghdad neighborhood Thursday after killing 16 security officials and burning some of their bodies in a brazen afternoon attack that served as a grim reminder of continued insurgent strength in Iraq's capital.

It was the bloodiest attack in a day that included the deaths of 23 Iraqi soldiers, policemen and other security forces across the country who were targeted by shootings and roadside bombs.

The mayhem serves as a stark warning that insurgents are trying to make a comeback three months after their two top leaders were killed in an airstrike on their safehouse, and as the U.S. military presence decreases day by day.

The complex attack began when militants struck a checkpoint in the largely Sunni neighborhood of Azamiyah, once a stronghold of insurgents that in recent years has become more peaceful. Then the militants set it on fire, burning several of the soldiers' bodies, according to an army officer who was on patrol in the neighborhood. Minutes later, attackers detonated three roadside bombs nearby.

Hospital, police and military officials all confirmed the death toll.

A large pool of blood and what appeared to be char marks could be seen on the ground near an Iraqi army truck. Authorities immediately sealed off the area. Police and army officials said between 16 and 20 assailants took part in the highly orchestrated attack; all appeared to have escaped.

A day before the Azamiyah attack, Vice President Joe Biden predicted there would not be an extreme outbreak of sectarian violence in Iraq as all but 50,000 U.S. forces leave the country at the end of August. He said the American troops left behind would be more than enough to help Iraqi forces maintain security.

"I can't guarantee anything, but I'm willing to bet everything that there will be no such explosion," Biden said on NBC's "Today" show. He was speaking from Ft. Drum in upstate New York where he and his wife were welcoming troops home. Still, the Obama administration is keeping a wary eye on Iraq's security. White House officials said Biden is sending two of his top national security advisers to Baghdad this weekend to help push along Iraq's stalled political process in a sign of impatience and concern that sectarian tensions could escalate as the Americans forces withdraw.

It has been more than four



Iraqi security forces inspect the scene of an attack on their checkpoint in Baghdad, Iraq, Thursday, July 29, 2010. Militants Thursday killed a number of Iraq's security forces with a combination of shootings and roadside bombs that was a bitter demonstration of the dangers Iraqi forces still face.

Associated Press

months since Iraq's March 7 election, with little indication that a government can be formed before the Muslim holiday of Ramadan begins in mid-August and brings a halt to business in much of the Middle East.

As politicians bicker, Iraqis point to such violent attacks as Thursday's as a clear indication that the terror groups are trying to use the political instability to regroup.

Officials in Azamiyah said the provocative flag-planting and bold attack are part of an attempt by the terror group to once again infiltrate the Sunni neighborhood. "Al-Qaida is trying their best to return to Iraq or to Azamiyah because they have no existence here now," said a member of the Azamiyah provincial council, Haitham al-Azami. "Al-Qaida, by this act intends to pretend that they have an existence and to show their muscles."

The daylight attack was the boldest move by militants

since their commando-style assault on the central bank in June that left 26 people dead during morning rush hour. Suicide bombings, roadside bombs and nighttime assassinations have tended to be their pattern of violence.

The Azamiyah blast was the deadliest of a series of attacks around the country, aiming to kill and maim members of Iraq's security forces who are increasingly taking over security from Americans.

Earlier, a suicide bomber drove a minibus into the main gate of an Iraqi army base near Saddam Hussein's hometown north of Baghdad, killing four soldiers, said police and hospital officials. In the western city of Fallujah, 40 miles west of Baghdad, two roadside bombs targeting Iraqi army patrols killed two soldiers, police and hospital officials in the city said.

In the northern city of Mosul, a bomb attached to a police vehicle killed one policeman and injured two others, a police official said.

All officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the media.

The attacks underline the fact that militant groups can still strike with lethal force across Iraq, despite an improvement in the security situation over the last three years.

Also Thursday, an al-Qaida-linked group claimed responsibility for a bombing earlier this week that targeted the Baghdad offices of a pan-Arab television station killing six people, describing it as a victory against a "corrupt channel." The Arabic-language news channel Al-Arabiya is one of the most popular in the Middle East but is perceived by insurgents as being pro-Western.

"We take responsibility for targeting this corrupt channel, and we will not hesitate to hit any media office and chase its staffers if they insist on being a tool of war against almighty God and his prophet," the announcement said. □

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Pair wanted in US woman's death deported to Panama

FILADELFO ALEMAN

Associated Press Writer

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP)

— Nicaragua deported a U.S. couple to Panama, where they face charges of killing two Americans in a scheme to steal their property on a Caribbean archipelago popular with expatriates.

William Cortez and his wife, Jane, were turned over to Panamanian police on Thursday, Nicaraguan deputy police chief Carlos Palacios said. The pair were arrested Monday at the border with Costa Rica and identified themselves with what authorities have called false names.

They are charged with killing Cheryl Lynn Hughes, 53, and another man believed to be a U.S. citizen.

Their bodies were found last week buried in shallow graves in the backyard of a hotel run by Cortez in Bocas del Toro, a Panamanian archipelago of mangrove islands. Friends and

relatives say Hughes owned the hotel and that Cortez took it over after she disappeared in March.

Hughes, a St. Louis, Missouri-native who had lived in Panama for 10 years, was reported missing by a friend. Police found her body after her estranged husband, Keith Werle, persuaded them to search the hotel run by Cortez.

Werle, who also lives in Panama but was separated from Hughes, said Cortez claimed he had bought Hughes' property and that she had left the area without saying where she was going.

Werle said he began suspecting Cortez when his stories about the transaction didn't add up, and when he realized that Cortez also owned property that had belonged to a U.S. citizen Bo Icelar, who also had disappeared in Bocas del Toro.

Werle said he received text messages from Hughes' phone

that he found suspicious, including one claiming that she had gone sailing.

"She didn't like sailing. The stories he kept telling people didn't make sense," Werle said in a telephone interview with The Associated Press.

Then Werle stopped hearing from Hughes altogether, which he found implausible despite their estrangement. The couple moved to Panama together 10 years ago and married after five years.

"If she had met someone and moved on or something she would have thrown that in my face," he said.

Werle said several of Hughes' dogs, her passport and other items belonging to her were found at the hotel during the police search last week. It was one of the dogs that led police to Hughes' body in a wooded area behind the house, he said.

A few hours later, police found another body that Panamanian authorities identified as Icelar.



Detainees identified by Nicaraguan authorities as William Adolfo Cortez, center, of Texas, and his wife Jane Cortez, behind a police officer at right, are escorted by Nicaraguan and Panamanian police agents before being extradited to Panama at the airport in Managua, Nicaragua, Wednesday, July 29, 2010. Authorities said the two, detained near the border with Costa Rica, have been identified as the couple wanted in Panama in the death of U.S. woman Lynn Hughes and that they matched photographs Panamanian authorities provided of William Cortez and his wife Jane.

Associated Press

The U.S. Embassy said it had no information about Icelar. It declined to comment on the investigation or on the two U.S. suspects. It was unclear if Cortez and his wife had an

attorney.

Panamanian police said they are investigating how Cortez obtained Hughes' hotel and property that had belonged to Icelar. □

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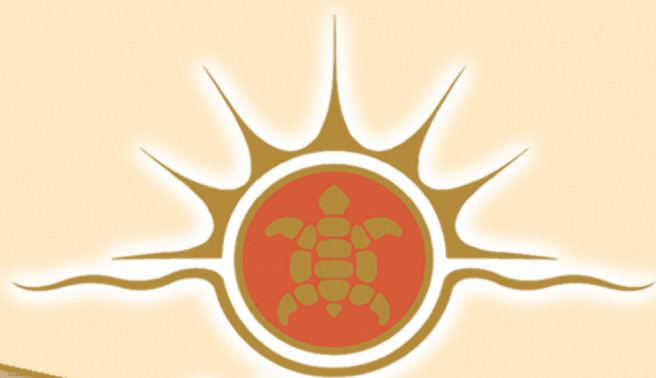


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A sign asking for privacy is posted on the front door of the home of Petty Officer 3rd Class Jarod Newlove, Thursday, July 29, 2010, in Seattle. According to a senior U.S. military official and Afghan officials, Newlove, the second U.S. Navy sailor who went missing in a dangerous part of eastern Afghanistan was found dead and his body recovered. The family of Newlove, 25, had been notified of his death, the U.S. military official said on condition of anonymity, because he was not authorized to disclose the information.

Associated Press

NAVY SAILOR

Continued from Front Page

"This is like a puzzle," said Abdul Wali, deputy head of the governing council in Logar.

Petty Officer 2nd Class Justin McNeley — father of two boys aged 5 and 9 — from Kingman, Arizona, and Petty Officer 3rd Class Jarod Newlove, 25, from the Seattle area, disappeared in the

province July 23. McNeley's body was recovered there Sunday and Newlove's body was pulled from a river Wednesday evening, Afghan officials said.

The U.S. Navy confirmed Newlove death on Thursday. At the Newlove's house in west Seattle, where children's chalk drawings adorned the sidewalk, a big sign on the door said: "The family has no comment. Please respect our privacy."

Officials at the NATO-led coalition headquarters in Kabul have not offered an explanation as to why the two service members were driving a heavily armored vehicle so far from their base at Camp Julien, a training facility on the western edge of the city. A NATO official, speaking on condition of anonymity because the case was being investigated, said it was unclear what the two were doing, what prompted them to leave their compound or whether they were on official business.

Senior military officials in Washington, who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the case, said the sailors were never assigned anywhere near where their bodies were found.

The NATO official in Kabul shot down speculation that the two had been abducted in

Kabul and driven to Logar — the same province where New York Times reporter David Rohde was kidnapped in 2008 while trying to make contact with a Taliban commander. Rohde and an Afghan colleague escaped in June 2009 after seven months in captivity, most spent in Taliban sanctuaries in Pakistan. Samer Gul, chief of Logar's Charkh district, said the two sailors, in a four-wheel drive armored SUV, were seen Friday by a guard working for the district chief's office. The guard tried to flag down the vehicle, carrying a driver and a passenger, but it kept going, Gul said.

"They stopped in the main bazaar of Charkh district. The Taliban saw them in the bazaar," Gul said. "They didn't touch them in the bazaar, but notified other Taliban that a four-wheel vehicle was coming their way."

The second group of Taliban tried to stop the vehicle, but when it didn't, insurgents opened fire and the occupants in the vehicle shot back, he said. The NATO official confirmed that the vehicle had been shot up.

Gul said there is a well-paved road that leads into the Taliban area and suggested the Americans may have mistaken that for the main highway — which is much older and more dilapidated.

Wali, the deputy head of the governing council in Logar, insisted the Taliban did not plan the incident. Initially, the insurgents didn't know if they should claim responsibility or not, he said.

"The Taliban were just joking around with each other and they suddenly saw a big armored vehicle coming toward them," he said. "They thought it might be a trick — that if it got too close, there might be an airstrike against them — so they opened fire." Din Mohammed Darwesh, spokesman for the provincial governor of Logar, said the governor's office was upset because the two Americans left their base without notifying Afghan security forces in Logar, which is the normal protocol. He called their presence in Logar an "abnormal situation."

The international force quickly launched a massive search for the sailors, setting up checkpoints and distributing hundreds of fliers, with reprinted photos of the two missing sailors. The fliers offered a \$20,000 reward for information about their whereabouts.

The Taliban did not claim responsibility for the missing sailors for more than 48 hours after the ambush. A message posted on their website late Sunday claimed one American service member

had been kidnapped in Logar and another was killed in a shootout.

On Thursday, Taliban spokesman Zabiullah Mujahid told The Associated Press that the Taliban, on Tuesday, left the "body of a dead American soldier for the U.S. forces" to recover.

U.S. officials did not provide details about how either sailor might have died. Darwesh, the provincial spokesman, said Newlove was shot once in the head and twice in the torso.

Mohammad Rahim Amin, local government chief in Baraki Barak, said villagers in the district called to report the body of a foreigner, clad in a uniform, in the river. He said coalition forces recovered it about 5:30 p.m. Wednesday. He speculated the body could have floated downstream because the river was swollen by rain Tuesday night.

Amin said in recent days, security tightened around the Taliban, who were under pressure from Afghan forces, intelligence officials and coalition troops converging on the area in a massive search for the missing service member.

"It makes sense that the Taliban had nowhere to go, so they killed him," Amin said, referring to Newlove.

Newlove joined the Navy in March 2004, completed his duty and joined the reserve in December 2008. □

Raging Russian fires destroy homes, people flee

DAVID NOWAK

Associated Press Writer

MOSCOW (AP) — Raging forest fires encircled a southern Russian city and tore through provincial villages Thursday, forcing mass evacuations as Moscow suffered through a record, weeks-long heat wave and smog cloud caused by peat-bog fires.

Some 212,506 acres were burning nationwide, and flames all but encircled the city of Voronezh, 300 miles southeast of Moscow. Forest fires on Moscow's outskirts reached the city's western fringe, in the Krylatskoye district, but were extinguished toward nightfall.

State television pictures showed the evacuation by ambulance of a Voronezh city hospital. Channel One said more than 800 patients were transferred

to other facilities as flames approached the city's outskirts and thick smoke lowered visibility. Hundreds of children were evacuated from at least seven summer camps, according to the regional Emergencies Ministry website.

Distraught locals were shown next to their burning homes, with one elderly man peering into the camera and asking "Where are we to live now?" Over his head, plumes of thick black smoke sailed toward the city center. There, the few locals on the streets were shown holding handkerchiefs to their mouths, and stooping to cough.

Hundreds of homes in surrounding villages burned to the ground, the ministry said. The Interfax news agency reported that the 340 homes were destroyed in a village near Nizhny

Novgorod, around 250 miles east of Moscow. There were no reports of casualties.

Hot summers are usual even in Russia's more northern climes, where temperatures routinely reach the mid-80s. But Moscow on Thursday broke its all-time temperature record for the second time in a week.

The mercury hit 100 on Thursday, beating by a fraction a record set on Monday, the country's news agencies reported.

Muscovites have been urged to skip work and stay indoors due to the heat and potentially dangerous smog from peat bog fires outside the city, as the third week of a protracted heat wave approached.

While the heat, which is relatively mild for the United States but highly unusual in Northern Europe,



A local resident runs near a peat fire in a forest near the town of Lubertsy, southeast of Moscow in Shatura, late Thursday, July 29, 2010. Peat swamps started burning in central Russia following an unprecedented heat wave.

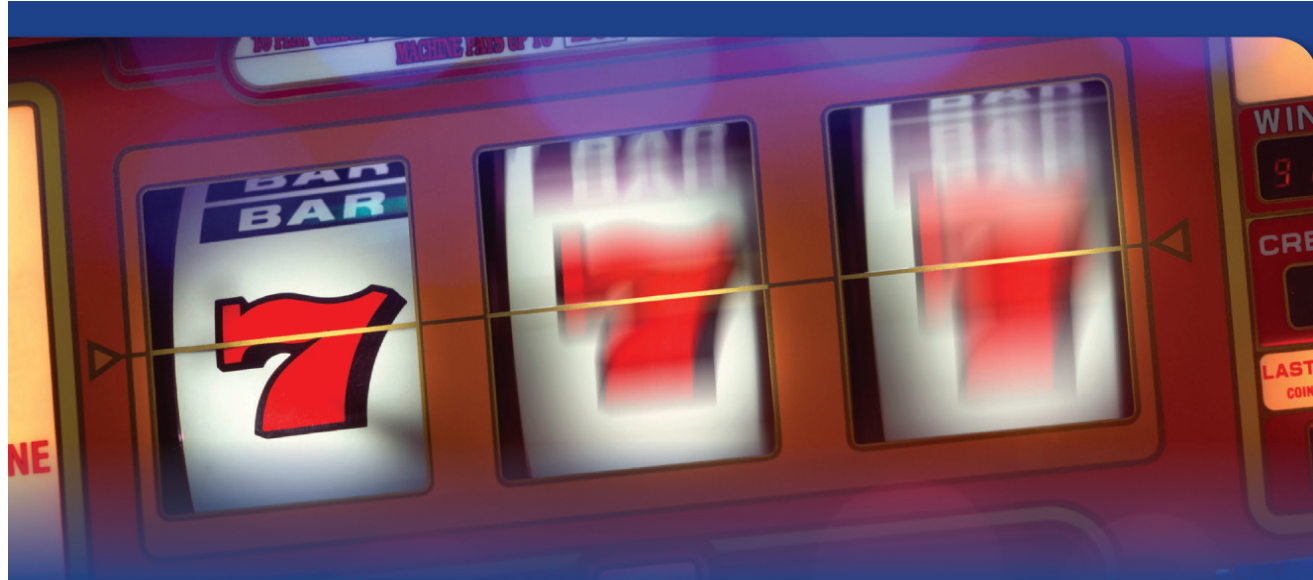
Associated Press

was expected to ease in the coming days, the smog from the peat bogs could be around for weeks, officials have said.

The Moscow region has thousands of acres of peat bogs — wetlands full of decayed plant matter. When they are drained for agriculture and other purposes, they can become

a fire hazard.

When moisture is especially low, such as during heat waves, the peat, which is high in carbon, is highly flammable and can ignite and smolder underground and give off dangerous fumes. Environmentalists said smog that blanketed Moscow in 2002 killed hundreds of people. □



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Review: Efron sleepwalks through corny 'Cloud'



In this publicity image released by Universal Pictures, Charlie Tahan, right, and Zac Efron are shown in a scene from 'Charlie St. Cloud'.

(AP Photo/Universal Pictures, Diah Pera)

By **DAVID GERMAIN**,
AP Movie Writer

Zac Efron and the rest of the crew behind "Charlie St. Cloud" want their movie to be weepy, soulful, inspirational, cathartic, ethereal, life-affirming and who knows what else on the New Age emotional barometer. Too bad they didn't aim to

make it a little interesting.

This melodrama about a young man who puts his life in stasis after his kid brother's death is a bore, despite a somewhat clever twist — somewhat because it momentarily jolts the story out of the doldrums before the movie settles back to sleep.

Adapted by director Burr

Steers and screenwriters Craig Pearce and Lewis Colick from Ben Sherwood's novel "The Death and Life of Charlie St. Cloud," the movie deals with the biggest of issues — why are we here, where are we bound? — with the blandest of greeting-card sentiments. While Efron aims to show he's more than just a "High School Musical" heartthrob, he's vacuous in the title role here, sleepwalking through what's meant to be a journey from the deepest despair toward new hope.

Efron's Charlie has everything going his way in his Pacific Northwest hometown. He's a master yachtsman about to graduate from high school and head off to college with a sailing scholarship. His female classmates swoon at the sight of him. He's best friend, idol and father figure to his young brother, Sam (Charlie Tahan). Then Sam dies in a terrible

accident, while Charlie is revived after a near-death experience that leaves him seeing dead people — not in a creepy "The Sixth Sense" manner but in an everyday, how's-your-afterlife-going sort of way.

Five years later, Charlie's stuck in limbo, working as the caretaker at the cemetery where Sam is buried and still looking after his little brother, who keeps popping up from beyond to hang out.

What could ever shock Charlie back to life?

Why, the love of a fine woman, of course.

Just as she's about to head off on a 'round-the-world solo sailing race, Charlie's high school classmate Tess Carroll (Amanda Crew) comes back into his world, rekindling his interest in living people, the sea and everything else for which he once had a passion. The surprise turn in the

plot initially leaves hope for something better than a predictable Hollywood ending. But if you give any thought to that little twist, it makes no sense, even within a story where a guy chats with dead folks. So best not to give it any thought.

Kim Basinger and Ray Liotta appear in oddly fleeting roles — she as Charlie and Sam's single mom, he as a paramedic who revived Charlie and asks him the Big Question — why'd you get to come back, kid?

Donal Logue also is on hand for a meager part as Tess' sailing coach, an insignificant character except for his silly name — Tink Weatherbee.

Steers, who made the decent teen tale "Igby Goes Down" and also directed Efron in the piffing comedy "17 Again," does a nice job putting some soul in the scenery, even if he can't manage the same for the characters. The sailing images

Imprisoned Spector returns to music with wife's CD

By **LINDA DEUTSCH**,
AP Special Correspondent

ALHAMBRA, Calif. — In the often weird world of show business marriages, the love story of Phil and Rachelle Spector is among the strangest.

The 70-year-old Spector is a rock music legend imprisoned for the murder of an actress.

His wife, an aspiring singer who just turned 30, is dividing her time between prison visits and promoting her new album, for which he is listed as the producer.

For Rachelle, there has been a whirl of clubs, red carpet openings, travel, interviews and recording sessions, all happily reported on her Facebook page. For Phil, there is life in a tiny cell at a prison in Corcoran, Calif., where he lives on hope that his appeal will be granted and he will get a new trial. He was sentenced to 19 years to life behind bars. But with Rachelle's album, "Out of My Chelle," Spector has a chance to jump back into the music world, where he built his Rock and Roll Hall of Fame credentials by producing such acts as the Beatles, Ike and Tina Turner, Cher, the

Ramones, the Ronettes, and many others.

"I was as excited about this album as when I met Elvis or the Stones. It's a gift from me to her," he said in a recent interview from prison.

The album, which was released last month, is billed as the first "Phil Spector Production" in 30 years. Spector had been retired for decades, and while he did work with the British group Starsailor on their 2003 album, "Silence is Easy," they fired him before it was done because of his mood swings and creative differences (two Spector-produced songs made the album).

Some have cast doubt on whether he actually produced "Out of My Chelle." It has none of the hallmarks of Spector's famed "Wall of Sound" recording technique, and the songs are lightweight pop and dance numbers without the elaborate arrangements for which he was known.

But Spector insists he produced the record during the three years before he went to trial for the shooting death of Lana Clarkson.

"I was there for recording of all the tracks," he said. "Making

that record with Rachelle was one of the greatest experiences of my life."

Although Spector is now a convicted murderer, his reputation as a music icon has not diminished, and gives the album any luster that it has. The back cover of the album says: "Executive Producer: Legendary Genius PHIL SPECTOR." It is credited to Rachelle's record label called, "Genius 4Ever Records."

Still, the album has not generated much serious attention, dismissed as a novelty record. It has been trashed by most critics as an insult to Spector's vaunted reputation.

The album's first song, "Here in My Heart" is intended as a love song from her to her imprisoned husband with lyrics including, "You're with me night and day/ even when you're far away."

Asked about his life in custody, he said: "Prison life is very difficult. I'm in here with sociopaths and misfits. My appeal is filed and it's coming up within the next couple of months. Hopefully I'll be out of here in four or five months."

But he adds Rachelle is the light of his life. She drives 2 1/2 hours to Corcoran and waits in line for hours for a visit with him. They spend a few hours holding hands and talking at a table in a prison cafeteria, are allowed one kiss and one hug and then she goes back to life at Spector's castle in Alhambra, a suburb eight miles from downtown Los Angeles.

They talk by phone every day. "She comes every week to see me," Spector said. "I see skyrockets each time I see her. She's the fairy princess in my world."

Spector said that when he met Rachelle at a Hollywood restaurant in 2003, shortly after his arrest in the shooting of actress Lana Clarkson, he did not know she was an aspiring singer and did not hear her sing until after they were wed. He said he decided then to give her some songs he had from young writers for a new album.

Rachelle Short grew up in the small town of Beaver Falls, Pa., where she played trombone in her high school marching band and performed with jazz combos. She and a sister were



In this June 29, 2010 photo, Rachelle Spector, wife of imprisoned music producer Phil Spector, poses at her home in Alhambra, Calif.

(AP Photo/Reed Saxon, file)

raised by their single mom, a waitress. After high school, Rachelle studied business and music, and, following her dream to be a singer, headed to Hollywood in 2001.

She worked as a waitress, restaurant manager, bartender and model while performing at small clubs. She has said she knew nothing of Spector's reputation as a music legend nor about the Clarkson shooting when they met.

Rachelle went to work as Spector's assistant and was running his business by the time they married in 2006 in the foyer of his mansion, where Clarkson was found shot to death in February

BUSINESS

Aruba TODAY

Citigroup paying \$75M to settle civil charges

By MARCY GORDON,

AP Business Writer

WASHINGTON — Banking titan Citigroup Inc. is paying \$75 million to settle civil charges that it misled investors about its potential losses from subprime mortgages as the housing bust hit in 2007.

The Securities and Exchange Commission announced the settlement with Citigroup on Thursday. It said the company repeatedly made misleading statements in calls with

analysts and regulatory filings about the extent of its holdings tied to high-risk mortgages.

The bank had said the exposure was \$13 billion or less. The SEC said it exceeded \$50 billion.

Citigroup earned \$2.7 billion in the second quarter of this year. So the penalty represents less than 3 percent of its net income from April through June.

The settlement marked the second time in weeks that the

agency reached an agreement on punitive action against a major Wall Street firm in connection with the financial crisis. Earlier this month, Goldman Sachs & Co. agreed to pay \$550 million to settle civil fraud charges that it sold mortgage investments without telling buyers that the securities had been crafted with input from a client that was betting on them to fail.

Citigroup was one of the hardest-hit banks during the

Stocks regain ground as market stays on bumpy path



In this July 28, 2010 photo, trader Richard Scardino works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. Stock futures rose Thursday, July 29, following further signs that Europe's economy is bouncing back faster than expected.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

By STEPHEN BERNARD,

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — Stocks recovered from early losses Thursday as investors waited for the government's reading on second-quarter gross domestic product.

The Dow Jones industrial

average rose 2 points in afternoon trading after being down more than 100 earlier. Broader indexes were narrowly mixed.

Stocks continued a now months-long pattern of erratic trading. Investors have been torn between buying on

companies' upbeat earnings and forecasts, and selling on economic reports that point to an uncertain recovery.

That indecision was clear on Thursday. Stocks first rose on earnings reports from Southwest Airlines Co., ExxonMobil Corp., Avon Products Inc. and Sony Corp. all, of which topped earnings forecasts. But disappointment over what was just a slight drop in initial claims for unemployment benefits sent stocks falling. Traders were also uneasy ahead of Friday's GDP report.

Analysts said trading was likely to remain bumpy as long as investors are uncertain about the economy and in turn, stocks' direction.

The Dow rose 2.27, or 0.02 percent, to 10,500.38. The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 0.85, or 0.1 percent, to 1,105.28. The Nasdaq composite index rose 0.31, or 0.01 percent, to 2,264.87.

Winning stocks were ahead of losers by about 4 to 3 on the New York Stock Exchange. Volume was light at 739 million shares. Lighter volume tends to skew price moves. □



Banking colossus Citigroup on Monday released an update to stop its iPhone mobile banking software from secretly squirreling away basic account and transaction data.

(AFP/Getty Images/File/Spencer Platt)

financial crisis. It received \$45 billion from the \$700 billion financial bailout — among the largest of government rescues.

A current and a former Citi executive also settled charges with SEC. Former Chief Financial Officer Gary Crittenden agreed to pay a \$100,000 civil penalty. The former head of investor relations, Arthur Tildesley Jr., agreed to pay \$80,000. Tildesley now is the head of cross marketing at the company.

New York-based Citigroup, Crittenden and Tildesley neither admitted nor denied the SEC's charges. But they did agree to refrain from future violations of the securities laws.

"We are pleased that we have reached agreement with the SEC to put this matter concerning certain 2007 disclosures behind us, and that the SEC is not charging Citi or any individual with intentional or reckless misconduct," the company said in a statement. SEC Enforcement Director Robert Khuzami said in a statement that Citigroup boasted of its superior ability to reduce its subprime exposure, even in the fall of 2007 as the

subprime mortgage market quickly weakened

"In fact, billions more in ... subprime exposure sat on its books undisclosed to investors," he said. "The rules of financial disclosure are simple — if you choose to speak, speak in full and not in half-truths."

Of the \$45 billion that Citigroup received from the government bailout, \$25 billion was converted to a government ownership stake in the company last summer. The bank repaid the other \$20 billion in December. The government has said it will sell the \$25 billion in stock by the end of 2010.

The SEC said in its lawsuit that Citigroup left out two categories of assets tied to subprime mortgages when it reported its exposure of \$13 billion. The company didn't disclose until November 2007 that it had more than \$40 billion of additional exposure from those categories, the SEC said. By then, the value of those assets had declined.

The SEC also said that Crittenden and Tildesley were repeatedly given information about the full extent of Citigroup's potential losses from subprime mortgage securities. □

SPORTS

Aruba TODAY

Tseng and Hull set pace at Women's British Open

SOUTHPORT, England (AP) — Taiwan's Yani Tseng and Australian Katherine Hull posted four under 68s to lead by a stroke after the first round of the Women's British Open at Royal Birkdale on Thursday.

Tseng, twice a major winner in this year's Kraft Nabisco Championship and the LPGA Championship in 2008, staked her claim to a third one with her bogey-free display, finishing with birdie-eagle.

"I played really, really solid. I hit all greens but one today and I putted pretty well," Tseng said. "I still missed a lot but I two putted the 17th for birdie from 40 yards and made eagle at the last from six yards.

"The last two par fives were just like long par fours with



Australia's Katherine Hull tees off on the thirteenth hole during the first round of the Women's British Open, at Royal Birkdale Golf Club, Southport, England, Thursday July 29, 2010.

Associated Press

the wind so I stayed relaxed and tried to make birdies. It was pretty good."

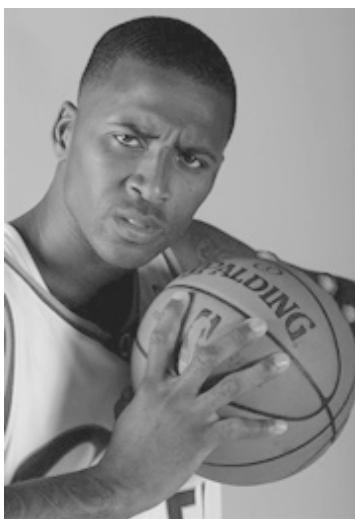
Hull, who was in one of the late groups out, eagled the 18th in front of the deserted stands to join Tseng at four under.

She dropped a stroke at the fourth, had birdies at the seventh, ninth and 10th, and then her closing eagle to trim three strokes off par on the way home.

"I hit a drive and a hybrid onto the last green and holed from 60 feet, a great way to finish," Hull said. "I had a long talk with my caddie last week and unearthed a secret to improve my game. I had become lazy with my routine and the improvement made all the difference today."

Continued on Page 15

Police: Ex-NBA player Wright shot to death



FILE - In this Sept. 29, 2008, file photo, Cleveland Cavaliers' Lorenzen Wright poses at the NBA basketball team's media day in Independence, Ohio. Relatives and friends of Wright gathered Wednesday, July 28, 2010, and grieved for the former NBA player who has been missing for 10 days, as police investigated the discovery of a man's body outside of Memphis.

Associated Press

ADRIAN SAINZ

Associated Press Writer

MEMPHIS, Tennessee (AP) — Former NBA player Lorenzen Wright, whose body was found in the woods outside Memphis, was shot to death and the case is being investigated as a homicide, police said Thursday.

Family members had said Wednesday that police told them Wright's body had been found near an apartment complex. Police delayed confirmation, awaiting an autopsy that confirmed the identity based on dental records, authorities said in a statement.

The Shelby County medical examiner's office reported that Wright died of a gunshot wound, police said.

Wright, a 34-year-old Memphis native, was last seen around midnight July 18. □

Farmers Classic

Lopez, Falla win 2nd-round matches



Alejandro Falla, of Colombia, stretches to return a shot to Ernests Gulbis, of Latvia, during their match at the Farmers Classic tennis tournament, Thursday, July 29, 2010, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Fourth-seeded Feliciano Lopez of Spain defeated Dudi Sela of Israel 7-6 (7), 6-4 in the second round of the Farmers Classic on Thursday.

No. 5 seed Ernests Gulbis of Latvia lost to Alejandro Falla of Colombia 4-6, 6-3, 7-6 (10). Top-seeded Andy Murray was

set to open his campaign in a night match against American qualifier Tim Smyczek. The winner will play Falla in the quarterfinals.

Lopez advanced to play the winner of a later match between American wild card James Blake and Benjamin Becker of Germany at the Los

Angeles Tennis Center on the UCLA campus.

Lopez won his hard-court season debut, having been idle since reaching the round of 32 at Wimbledon.

Falla had lost in the first round of his three previous tournaments, including to Roger Federer at Wimbledon. The left-hander, ranked 65th in the world, advanced to his third quarterfinal of the year.

Gulbis was playing his first tournament in two months after sustaining a hamstring injury in a first-round loss at the French Open. He was clearly rusty and easily irritated by fans who yelled during his service motion.

"It was really tough for me to go long rallies," he said. "I physically couldn't run anymore. I couldn't make any winners. Basically, nothing worked. If you don't fish for two months, maybe you're bad at fishing." □

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With a 3rd heart, Compton shares Greenbrier lead

By JOHN RABY
AP Sports Writer

WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, W.Va. — Erik Compton is a walking billboard for organ donation and sheer determination. He's also at the top of the Greenbrier Classic leaderboard.

Playing on a late sponsor exemption, the 30-year-old double heart transplant recipient shot a 7-under 63 on Thursday to share the first-round lead with rookie Matt Every in the inaugural tournament.

Compton spent eight straight days doing yard work at home in Miami before he got the call Saturday to play in the tournament. He's making the most of his late invite, overcoming a slow start with nine birdies on the Old White course.

"You know, some guys miss six, seven cuts in a row and then win," Compton said. "I know I'm a good player, and I have a lot of the adversity in front of me with the game and health. But I always feel like if I stick in there and keep trying, something eventually good is going to happen."

George McNeill, Pat Perez and Jeff Overton opened with 64s.

Nearly all of the field hadn't played the course before this week, but it wasn't a detriment — 24 players were at 4 under or better.

While more than half of the field is in jeopardy of missing the FedEx Cup playoffs and others are trying to secure spots in next month's PGA Championship at Whistling Straits, Compton is taking it week by week, looking to solidify a future either on the PGA Tour or the Nationwide circuit.

A few years ago, it wasn't looking so bright.

Compton was diagnosed with viral cardiomyopathy at age 9. The disease inflames the heart and leaves it unable to pump as hard as it needs to. His first transplant came three years later and another occurred in 2008.

He didn't think he'd play golf again and even sold his equipment after the second transplant. But his health improved quickly and he returned to the game within weeks.

This season he's made four cuts in seven starts.

In the past he might have denied that his double transplants would have been a bigger deal than shooting a low score, but not now.

"It affects so many people," Compton said.

Compton's stamina is good, though he admits it may not be up to the level of other players. That's in part due to the hilly terrain and expansive layout of some courses.

Fortunately for him, Old White is relatively flat.

"My health is great. I keep a good eye on it," Compton said. "I'm almost like a doctor now myself because I've been through so much and being able to manage medications and take it on the road."

Good friend Victor Billskoog, who's carrying Compton's bag this week for the first time, is hoping to attend the PGA Tour's qualifying school and uses Compton as an inspiration.

"He has such a great story coming from the depths that he came from," Billskoog said.

"When I get down on myself and think about how hard I'm having it, I think about Erik and his remarkable story."

An accurate driver, Compton

showed a good all-around game Thursday, reaching 11 of 14 fairways and 15 of 18 greens in regulation. He needed just 26 putts.

Things didn't start out so good.

Compton bogeyed two of the first three holes, then rattled off seven birdies over a nine-hole stretch.

He also birdied the par-4 14th and his chip from behind the green to the par-5 17th hit the flag, leaving him with another short birdie.

"I'm just trying to enjoy the opportunity," Compton said. "It's just the first round. I've played this sport long enough to know that (Friday) I tee off at 2 o'clock and might be seven back. So I'm just trying to be patient."

Compton's previous best round this year was 4-under 67 in February at the Mayakoba Golf Classic. His best finish was a tie for 30th at the Arnold Palmer Invitational.

He qualified for the U.S. Open in June after a 36-hole sectional that included a playoff. He shot 77-81 in the



Erik Compton looks back at an eagle putt that just missed the hole on the 17th green during the first round of the Greenbrier Classic golf tournament at Greenbrier in White Sulphur Springs, W.Va., Thursday, July 29, 2010. Compton finished at 7 under par
Associated Press

Open and missed the cut.

After missing the cut two weeks ago at the Reno-Tahoe Open, Compton went back to his new home for some serious yard work, planting palm, oak and Italian Cypress trees and redoing the lawn.

"I've done flowers before, but nothing will grow in 150-degree weather in Miami," Compton said.

After more than a week of

getting his hands dirty, he got the call to play golf again — and has come to appreciate the beauty of Old White, which has undergone some tweaking and considerable floral touch ups in preparation for the tournament.

"This place is immaculate," Compton said. "That's why it's so neat to see the landscaping here. As a golfer, you like to have your yard look nice." □

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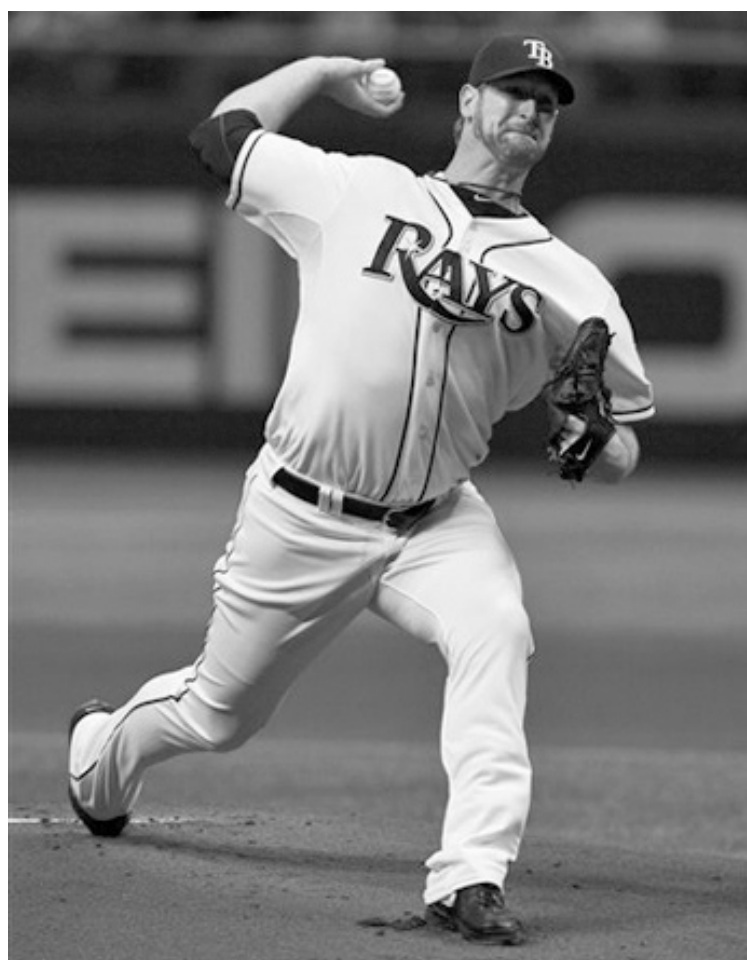
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Requirements: digital / analog reflex camera

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Tampa Bay Rays starter Jeff Niemann pitches against the Detroit Tigers during the first inning of a baseball game Wednesday, July 28, 2010, in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Associated Press



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AL Roundup

Niemann steers Rays past Tigers

ST. PETERSBURG, Florida (AP) — Tampa Bay starting pitcher Jeff Niemann was in control over six innings, guiding the Rays to a 7-4 win over the Detroit Tigers in the American League on Wednesday.

Niemann (9-3) allowed eight hits in six innings, and Evan Longoria hit a two-run homer in the eighth.

The Rays got out of a seventh-inning jam for the second consecutive game after intentionally walking Miguel Cabrera to load the bases with two outs. A fly ball ended the inning and preserved Tampa Bay's 5-4 lead.

Carl Crawford had an RBI grounder off Eddie Bonine (4-1) as the Rays took a 5-3 lead in the fourth.

Red Sox 7, Angels 3

In Anaheim, Marco Scutaro hit a tiebreaking grand slam in the eighth inning as Boston wrapped up a 10-game West Coast road trip with a three-game sweep of Los Angeles.

The Angels were swept at home for the first time in 80 series, ending the majors' longest streak since Atlanta went 84 home series without being swept from 2003-06. The Red Sox are 7-0 against Los Angeles this season.

Boston starter Josh Beckett (2-1) yielded five hits over seven innings in his first victory since April.

Fernando Rodney (4-1) took the loss for the Angels, who have lost seven of eight to drift out of contention in the AL West.

Athletics 3, Rangers 1

In Arlington, Trevor Cahill allowed one run over eight innings to guide Oakland to victory over Texas.

Cahill (10-4) took over the team lead in victories, breaking a tie with Gio Gonzalez. He improved to 5-1 for his career against Texas, 2-0 with a 0.87 ERA in three starts at Rangers Ballpark.

Kurt Suzuki homered and drove in two runs for Oakland, who moved within 7½ games of the AL West-leading Rangers.

Texas didn't score until the ninth, but starter Colby Lewis (9-7) had matched Cahill until Suzuki's homer in the sixth.

Yankees 8, Indians 0

In Cleveland, New York's Alex Rodriguez had two hits, but not homer No. 600, as the Yankees routed Cleveland.

New York starter A.J. Burnett (9-8) pitched 6 1-3 scoreless innings as the Yankees improved the best record in the majors (64-36) with their AL-leading ninth shutout.

Rodriguez didn't come close to getting his elusive 600th homer, though he went 2 for 5 with a run-scoring single in the first inning off Fausto Carmona (10-8).

Twins 6, Royals 4

In Kansas City, Delmon Young had a three-run homer as Minnesota finished a three-game sweep of Kansas City.

The Twins stayed on the heels of Chicago in the AL Central.

The Royals, who set a team record by allowing 42 runs and 53 hits in the three previous games, stemmed the flow somewhat but still lost.

Minnesota starter Brian Duensing (4-1) went six innings and gave up two runs.

Kansas City starter Brian Bannister (7-10) lost his fifth straight decision, going six-plus innings, allowing five runs.

White Sox 6, Mariners 5

In Chicago, Alex Rios hit a tiebreaking RBI single in the seventh inning as Chicago rallied to beat Seattle and notch its 10th straight home win.

Juan Pierre, who reached base three times, started the winning rally with a leadoff walk against Jamey Wright (1-3). He took second with his major league-best 38th steal and moved to third on a sacrifice. Brandon League came in to face Rios, who bounced a single past a drawn-in infield, making it 6-5.

The White Sox hit three homers for the second straight day and won their third straight overall to move 12 games over .500, tying a season-high.

Chicago reliever Matt Thornton (3-3) got one out with the bases loaded to end the seventh, taking the win, while Bobby Jenks struck out the side in the ninth for his 21st save.

Blue Jays 5, Orioles 0

In Toronto, rookie left-hander Brad Mills pitched seven scoreless innings for his first major league win, steering Toronto past Baltimore for the 12th consecutive time.

Called up from the minors for his first start of the season and just the third of his career, Mills (1-0) allowed only two singles.

Lyle Overbay hit a three-run homer for the Blue Jays, who have won five of six. They lead the majors with 155 homers, having gone deep in 10 straight games and hit 25 in that span.

It was the eighth shutout of the season for Toronto, and the seventh blanking for the Orioles, who have lost five straight.

Baltimore starter Jeremy Guthrie (4-11) allowed six hits in seven innings.

In other AL games it was Minnesota 6, Kansas City 4; Boston 7, L.A. Angels 3; N.Y. Yankees 8, Cleveland 0; Toronto 5, Baltimore 0; Tampa Bay 7, Detroit 4; Oakland 3, Texas 1; and Chicago White Sox 6, Seattle 5. □

Usain Bolt thinks 9.4 in the 100 meters is possible

EDDIE PELLIS

AP National Writer

DENVER (AP) — Usain Bolt says that his biggest goal at the London Olympics in two years' time will be simply to win the 100 meters gold medal again, even though he believes the distance can be run in a record breaking 9.4-second range.

"I'm always just happy with a gold medal," the Jamaican sprint star told The Associated Press. "If we go there and nobody breaks a record, I'll always have the record and there's no worries for me."

At Beijing in 2008, he smashed the world record in both the 100 and 200 and celebrated in style — shooting that fake bow and arrow into the sky before the race, dancing after the finish line and turning the Bird's Nest into his own private playground. He improved on his 100-meter record last year at the world championships. It currently stands at 9.58 seconds and he thinks he can go lower.

"I always say that probably 9.4 is possible," Bolt said. "I hope I can be the one to get there because I work very hard and I want nothing but to be the best."

To be a "legend," though, he doesn't believe he'll have to set another record in London. He'll merely have to win.

"I don't think I'm a legend now," he said. "A lot of people have done it one time. If I can double, few people in the world can say they're double Olympic gold medalists. I want to be one of those few people."

Carl Lewis is the only male runner to repeat in the 100 at the Olympics.

Bolt is also looking beyond 2012, when he would consider competing in the long jump for a change of pace. Earlier this year, he said he might have to do something else "because people are probably tired of seeing me."

People getting tired of Usain Bolt? Hardly seems possible.

"I think definitely they can



Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt reacts as he wins in the Men's 100 meters during the Athletics Diamond League Areva meeting at Stade De France in Saint Denis, north of Paris, Friday, July 15, 2010.

Associated Press

if you win all the time," he said. "The reason people enjoy seeing me is because I'm different from other athletes. It's fun to watch me. If I keep that up, they probably won't get bored. If I just win, win, win like a normal athlete and don't make it fun, they probably

will."

One way Bolt is keeping things fresh is by changing his racewear for each of this year's Diamond League meets in Europe. An artist in each city is designing a new singlet for him to wear.

"People really enjoy it and it's something to look

forward to," he said. "It's something new. I think people like it. I'm the one who does things like this that no one else will do." Bolt is scheduled to face Tyson Gay and Asafa Powell in the 100 for the first time this year at a meet next week in Stockholm. □



Yani Tseng of Taiwan plays on the first hole during the first round of the Evian Masters women's golf tournament in Evian, eastern France, Thursday, July 22, 2010.

Associated Press

WOMEN BRITISH OPEN Continued from Page 12

Tseng made just one birdie on the front nine to be out in 34

and then parred all the way to the 17th before her spectacular finish.

Trailing the leaders are Anne-

Lise Caudal of France, who posted the first 69 of the day, and was followed by South Korea's Amy Lang and

Sun Young Yoo, along with Brittany Lincicome of the United States.

Caudal, who won the Portuguese Open on the European Tour in 2008, dropped her only stroke at the first, but then notched four birdies.

"I've never played links golf before, only two practice rounds this week, but I played really well today," Caudal said. Yang was next in the clubhouse on 69, with one bogey and four birdies.

Lincicome went on more of a roller-coaster ride, picking up six birdies after dropping three strokes in the first two holes. "I putted really well after four putting the first for double-bogey," Lincicome said. "Afterwards I hit a lot of really long putts, which is unusual for me, but nice."

"Being a long hitter helped today as well. Having wedges on to greens instead of mid-irons."

Fellow American Michelle Wie shared seventh place on 70 with In-Kyung Kim of South Korea.

"I felt good all the way round today," Wie said. "I hit some good putts, they just didn't go in until at the end."

Earlier veteran Julie Inkster had taken the clubhouse lead with a 71 and was soon joined on 1-under by Jiyai Shin, the South Korean winner of the Evian Masters in France at the weekend.

England's Laura Davies shot a level-par 72.

"You need to know how to get the ball round this hard golf course in tough conditions," Davies said. "Experience counts for a lot in this sort of championship."

Defending champion Catriona Matthews had a three over 75, while new U.S. Open champion Paula Creamer shot a 74 with LPGA champion Cristie Kerr going one better on 73. □

SPORTS

Aruba TODAY

NL Roundup

Hairston pushes Padres over Dodgers

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Jerry Hairston Jr. drove in three runs to help the San Diego Padres to a 6-1 win over the Los Angeles Dodgers in the National League on Wednesday.

The Padres beat the Dodgers for the first time in five games at Petco Park this season.

San Diego starter Clayton Richard (8-5) and four relievers combined on a four-hitter. No Dodgers batter reached base after the third inning.

Los Angeles starter Hiroki Kuroda (8-9) retired 10 straight batters going into the sixth inning, when the Padres rallied to take the lead.

In San Francisco, Andres Torres hit a ground-rule single with the bases loaded in the bottom of the 10th inning to lift San Francisco over Florida.

With one out in the 10th, the Giants hit three straightingles off Florida reliever Clay Hensley before Torres hit a long fly ball over the Marlins' drawn-in outfield. It bounced on the warning track and over the fence.

Torres, who hit a two-run home run that landed in the waters of McCovey Cove in the sixth inning, had four hits to lead the Giants, who had 17 hits.

San Francisco's Buster Posey extended his hitting streak to 21 games, longest in the majors. He is one shy of breaking the Giants' rookie record of 22 set by Willie McCovey in 1959.

The Marlins overcame deficits of 7-1 and 9-2 to force extra innings.

Cardinals 8, Mets 7, 13



San Diego Padres Jerry Hairston slides in safely to home while scoring off a hit by Chris Denorfia in the seventh inning against the Los Angeles Dodgers during their baseball game Wednesday, July 28, 2010 in San Diego.

innings

In New York, Albert Pujols drove in the go-ahead run with two outs in the 13th inning, as St. Louis survived a frantic comeback to edge New York.

The Cardinals scored six times off Mets ace Johan Santana in the first inning only to watch their bullpen let the lead slip away.

The Mets scored four times in the eighth to tie the game. In the 13th, St. Louis got runners on the corner bases against Mets pitcher Pedro Feliciano (2-6). They elected to pitch to Pujols rather than walk the bases loaded, and Pujols hit a grounder through the left side for the winning run.

Mike MacDougal (1-0) worked the 12th inning to earn the win.

Reds 10, Brewers 2

In Milwaukee, Cincinnati's Brandon Phillips smacked a 450-foot grand slam as the visitors crunched Milwaukee.

The Reds scored 10 straight

runs, capped by Phillips' shot in the eighth, for their 30th come-from-behind victory of the season.

Cincinnati's Travis Wood (1-1) earned his first win in the majors in his sixth start.

The Reds scored five runs in the sixth off Brewers starter Chris Narveson (8-7) and reliever Kameron Loe and five more off Carlos Villanueva in the eighth.

Braves 3, Nationals 1

In Washington, rookie Jason Heyward gave Atlanta its first steal of home in a decade as the Braves downed Washington.

Atlanta went ahead 2-0 on Heyward's rare dash home while Brian McCann was caught in a rundown.

Braves starter Tim Hudson (11-5) shut down Washington the way he almost always does, allowing only one run in 7 2-3 innings, improving to 10-1 with a 1.49 ERA for his career against the Nationals franchise.

Washington starter Livan Hernandez (7-7) gave up

three runs in 4 1-3 innings, his shortest outing of 2010.

Phillies 7, Diamondbacks 1 In Philadelphia, Roy Halladay threw his eighth complete game to steer Philadelphia to a comfortable win over Arizona.

Halladay (12-8) upped his scoreless innings streak at home to 33 before a ninth-inning hit.

Top prospect Domonic Brown had two hits and two RBIs in his major league debut for the Phillies, who have won seven straight overall and 10 in a row at home.

Brown was called up from the minors before the game after outfielder Shane Victorino went on the 15-day disabled list with an abdominal strain on his left side.

Arizona has lost six straight. It was the fourth straight defeat for Diamondbacks starter Edwin Jackson (6-10).

Astros 8, Cubs 1

In Houston, Carlos Lee hit two home runs, including the go-ahead homer in the

sixth inning, as Houston beat Chicago.

The game was tied 1-1 before Lee connected for a two-run shot. His second, another two-run shot, made it 5-1 in the seventh.

Astros starter Bud Norris (3-7) allowed one unearned run and struck out seven in six innings for his first win since May.

Cubs starter Randy Wells (5-8) conceded three runs in 5 2-3 innings.

Pirates 6, Rockies 2

In Denver, Garrett Jones homered twice and Pittsburgh overcame an early injury to starting pitcher Ross Ohlendorf to hand Colorado its eighth straight loss.

Ohlendorf left after being hit in the face by a line drive in the first inning. He was checked at a hospital and was back at Coors Field before the game ended.

Jones drove in three runs with his third career two-homer game and second this season. A four-run third for the Pirates meant a premature finish for Colorado starter Aaron Cook (4-7), who had his shortest start this season. The Rockies last lost eight straight in June 2008.

Sean Gallagher (1-0), acquired this month from San Diego, took over from Ohlendorf and pitched three hitless innings for the win.

In other NL games it was Houston 8, Chicago Cubs 1; Cincinnati 10, Milwaukee 2; Philadelphia 7, Arizona 1; Atlanta 3, Washington 1; San Francisco 10, Florida 9, 10 innings; St. Louis 8, N.Y. Mets 7, 13 innings; Pittsburgh 6, Colorado 2; and San Diego 6, L.A. Dodgers 1. □

Associated Press

Breezes comes alive with Arthur & Ingrid



PALM BEACH – Breezes, serving local and international cuisine just opened at the edge of Palm Beach, east of the Old Mill.

The restaurant checked into the space once occupied by Rio Steakhouse, and serves as a friendly neighbor to Santosa Health Club and Spinning Center.

The place is an oasis of tranquility, overlooking a green expanse of natural wilderness with the twinkling lights of the high-rise hotels in the distance.

Chef Rolly Clavo is king in the kitchen. He is a veteran of many fine Caribbean establishments including De Olde Molen restaurant in its fondly-remembered hay-days and the Suisse Chalet.

Rolly put together a delicious menu of favorites including Lobster & Apple Salad, Shrimp & Scallop Vol au Vent

and Escargot Bourguignon among appetizers, as well as a hearty selection of soups, starring Dutch Pea Soup and a treasured recipe of Caldereta Caribena.

Light eaters will find generous portions of Classic Caesar and Tropical Island Chicken

Salad available. The House Specialties list a colossal Lobster, Scallops & Shrimp Thermidor, Paella for Two, Osso Bucco and an award winning Roast Cornish Hen, Ala Arthur, the colorful and charismatic owner.

Continued on Next Page



Breezes comes alive with Arthur & Ingrid



Continued from Page B1

An extensive USDA steak list and a rich seafood section round up the culinary delights with Beef Stroganoff and Barbeque Bonanza listed on the meat section and Fresh Catch of the Day Creole, and

Shrimp A La King on the Seafood roster.

Owners Arthur & Ingrid Solomon are proud of their new establishment which they worked putting together over the past year, with some help from talented and resourceful engineers and decorators, Rufino Jose Kelly and Oslin Wouter.

Arthur is a well-known personality on the island. He helped shape Aruba's international image by virtue of being a brilliant professional photographer.

Arthur started promoting Aruba in photos and on film in the 70s when he was hired by the island's budding tourist industry to capture our beaches, our people and our wild life, for the purpose of consumer advertising.

His love affair with the island started when he personally escorted various Ministers of Tourism as they toured the US conducting breakfast seminars and educating travel agents about the wonders the island, as seen through the camera lens of the Jamaican-born shutterbug.

Arthur's images appeared in magazines, travel documentaries, and commercials, and even in the travel brochures of Trans Caribbean Airlines, the first liner to service the region, before it was acquired by American Airlines.

As a professional he went on to perform the same service for Trinidad, Tobago, Mexico, the Bahamas and Puerto Rico, but was always drawn back to Aruba.

Then he met Ingrid, a native Aruban, which naturally gave him an excellent reason to permanently settle



here.

Over the years Arthur spent time in aviation, including a daring venture, Native Air Charters out of Florida and Genesis Air, offering commercial and private service to Aruba, Mexico, the Bahamas and Cayman Islands. Yet he always came here. From NY. From Miami.

And every time he returned, he vowed to stay put, until the tug of the next adventure.

This time, he says, it's for real. Ingrid is incredibly attached to her first grandson, Eden, and their dream of the local and international restaurant is a reality.

"I traveled the world," Arthur says, including the Caribbean, South American, Europe and the USA, and the restaurant is a culmination of all my travel experiences."

Check it out it is open for dinner every night, with ample parking, and at very reasonable prices. □

Live Music & Entertainment at Casa Tua Barcelona on Friday Night



ORANJESTAD - Enjoy your Paella and Sangria together with this fantastic live show! The downtown atmosphere is cool and relaxed with its in- and outside seating.

This Flamenco guitar player will perform together with Angela Croes on Friday night. This is a show that shouldn't be missed.

The highlight at Casa Tua Barcelona is also the new lunch specials every weekday from Monday till Friday! **A \$9.95 lunch special; Beef tenderloin with a red wine sauce or choose the Grouper Fillet for \$11.95. Both dishes include a soft drink. Fresh Fish lovers can treat the palate to the Whole Red Snapper, served with Rice and a salad.**

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Of course we saved the best for last as no one does an ending better than Casa Tua with their dreamy Tiramisu. If you're into something different we suggest tasting the Espresso Martini Cocktail as dessert, you won't be disappointed.

The best part about such a good ending is that it guarantees you'll be back for more...



Casa Tua Barcelona Downtown open from 11.30am to 10.30pm, Sunday from 5pm to 11pm tel. 588 5695. Casa Tua Palm Beach open from 5pm to 11pm, tel 586 8470

Aruba Birdlife Conservation visits Governor



ORANJESTAD - Recently, Aruba Birdlife Conservation visited the Governor of Aruba, Mr. Fredis Refunjol. The Governor was informed of the role the foundation intends to play for preservation and conservation of Aruba's nature in general and more specifically for the wild birds in and around Aruba. The foundation has consistently been receiving signals from the Aruban community that the numbers

of birds on the island are rapidly decreasing. The main causes of this phenomena are the strong increase in construction projects during the past years, which leads to an increased fragmentation of the birds' habitat and secondly, the presence of the invasive boa constrictor. The foundation also voiced its serious concerns about Aruba's arrears in ratification and implementation of international nature

treaties. Unfortunately, at the local level insufficient attention is given to nature. Aruba's nature protection legislation, for instance, is not being implemented. The foundation intends to make efforts to attaining enforcement of this legislation to prevent further structural damage to Aruba's nature. During the visit, Greg Peterson, chairman of Aruba Birdlife Conservation,

presented the Governor with three bird photos on canvas, intended to decorate the meeting room of the Governor. The chairman has been sharing his bird pictures with the Governor for a number of years and knows that the Shoco (Burrowing Owl), the Patrishi (Crested Bobwhite) and the Kinikini (American Kestrel) are among the Governor's favorites. The chairman requested the Governor's special attention for the Shoco. This year alone four traditional breeding grounds of Aruba's burrowing owl, *Athene cunicularia arubensis*, a local subspecies, were

completely destroyed. One of the photos presented to the Governor of the Shoco is a picture of an owl whose breeding ground has recently been destroyed. The Governor is known for his love for Aruba's nature and informed Aruba Birdlife Conservation that they could count on his support. On the picture: The chairman of Aruba Birdlife Conservation, Mr. Greg Peterson, presents the Governor of Aruba, Mr. Fredis Refunjol, with one of the three bird photographs on canvas. On this one, Aruba's burrowing owl in all its glory. □

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Art Rules Aruba Final Showcase July 31 At Cas Di Cultura



ORANJESTAD - The Art Rules Aruba Final Show Case is around the corner and tickets are on sale now. For only awg15/\$8.50 tickets are abvailable at Cas di Cultura, Scol di Arte and Atelier 89.

The Pancake Gallery's international Arts project "Art Rules Aruba" has been going strong for the past week. With 250 students getting the opportunity to learn several disciplines in the Arts including DJ, Fashion, Photography & Design, Dance, Theatre, Film and Rap & Poetry, Aruba's youth is undergoing intensive training to develop their artistic skills.

Offered by an international team of artists, directors, producers, dj's dancers and actors, students are getting the ultimate international exchange in the Arts with teachers coming from cities all over the world, including London, Amsterdam, New York, Washington, Rotterdam, Quebec Canada and of course Aruba.

With the second week of classes finishing up, students are getting ready to present the public of Aruba all they have learned in the Art Rules Aruba program. "We have worked so hard and cant wait for our parents to see what we learned" explains one of the Fashion Student.

Executive producers Ira and Ayra Kip also look forward to showing all their partners including Aruba's lead sponsor Unoca the outcome of what they call "one of the highlights of our careers".

The Art Rules Aruba final showcase opens with an exclusive Fashion and Photography exhibition in Cas di Cultura's exhibition area at 19:00 pm. It then moves on to the big stage in the Theatre for the Final Show case. At the end of the show students will also receive the Art Rules Aruba certificate presented by the law offices of HBN LAW.

For more information on the program, or how to get tickets visit www.artrulesaruba.com or call +297- 5665541.

Also read up on the Art Rules Aruba Daily Diary on the Pancake Gallery Blog at www.thepancakegallery.blogspot.com



At the Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa

Refurbishment Financing Signed on Aruba



PALM BEACH -- Carlson, owner and operator of the Radisson Aruba Resort, Casino & Spa, today announced the signing of USD 32.3 million in financing to invest in refurbishment and enhancements to further upgrade the upper-upscale, full-service hotel.

This is part of Carlson's Ambition 2015 growth strategy, which includes a primary focus on elevating Radisson as a powerful, globally consistent first-class brand. The positioning includes a USD 1.5 billion investment to align the brand in North America to global upscale standards and innovations to further enhance the guest experience.

Seen signing the documents are (L-R) Brad Hall, vice president - Treasurer & Strategic Analysis, Carlson, and Steve Graybill, Managing Director, National Investment Bank (NA) N.V. Looking on is Todd Folbrecht, senior director, development, Carlson Hotels. The syndicated financing for the facility was arranged by National Investment Bank (NA) N.V. and includes eleven lending institutions; Caribbean Mercantile Bank N.V., Maduro

& Curiels Bank International N.V., Banco di Caribe (Aruba) N.V., Ennia Caribe Leven (Aruba) N.V., National Investment Bank (NA) N.V., Orco Bank International N.V., Aruba Bank N.V., Pension Funds Tourism Sector Aruba, Stichting Pensioenfond Havenwerkers Aruba, Stichting Pensioenfond Meta Bedrijven Aruba, and Stichting Vidanova Pensioen Fonds. □



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There is a lot of talk in the Enlightenment Movement about not placing judgment. These are good intentions, but to say Don't Judge misses the point that Humans relate to the world through judgment.

Here's the paradox. We shouldn't place judgment, but judgment is how we relate to the physical world. We must place everything we come across into categories that our past experiences have created. We can't put something into a category unless we judge it in some way. Without judgment, we don't know how to relate. Our judgment tells us where to put something within the structure of our experience. Even if we are not emotionally attached, we must judge something in order to know what it

means to us. Becoming aware of our instant unconscious interpretation of all things is the right idea, and we can further hone our focus to say that jumping to conclusions doesn't serve our enlightenment. In other words, jump to the fourth dimension of Love instead of jumping to conclusions.

We must judge everything, we have no choice. We don't, however, have to jump to conclusions. See what you see, put it into its proper category, and let it be whatever it is to you. Your judgment defines you, it is not a bad thing. If you don't like the way you judge others, change the way you see them. Change your judgment by changing your perspective. See people for who they are, not for who

HUMAN HINTS Judgment

you think they are or who you want them to be. Allow and don't try to control. Remember that we each see our own personal interpretation of the Physical Realm. Since we all have different pasts and different hormones, we all interpret everything differently. There are an infinite number of interpretations for a single physical situation. Any conclusion that you reach about what you see must fit into your personal framework of experience, which is different for everyone.

Judging without jumping to conclusions gives your life structure, while leaving you

open to infinite possibilities. Don't dictate to the physical and the physical won't dictate to you. Always be open to infinite possibilities, and allow.

When we see a situation, making up stories feeds our natural fantasies, and can be healthy. Remember that they are stories that you made up. Don't impose your made up stories onto someone else's life, and don't impose your personal interpretation of life onto someone else's. Let people be who they are.

Until Tomorrow...

Go to www.HumanHints.com to sign up to receive this column in your email each day.

~Quentin Danziger

Quentin has over 20 years experience balancing what we refer to as the Real World, with science and spirit. He has held positions of responsibility and authority, received a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics from Colorado School of Mines, and has also studied many avenues of alternative thought. HumanHints is the culmination of his knowledge, experience and practice. These free daily emails detail concrete, real-world techniques to consciously create any future you choose, while in the throes of daily life created by outdated modes of thought.

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*matinee: everyday | late show: friday & saturday

AT RENAISSANCE - ORANJESTAD				
R	AFTER LIFE	daily: 9:00	late show: 11:30	
NEW		matinee:		
R	UNTHINKABLE	daily: 4:30	6:45	
		matinee:	late show:	
PG	G-FORCE	daily: 12:00	2:10	
		matinee:	late show:	
PG	DESPICABLE ME 3D	daily: 4:30	2:15	
		matinee:	late show:	
PG	THE LAST AIRBENDER	daily: 6:45	9:00	
		matinee:	late show: 11:15	
PG	TOY STORY 3 3D	daily: 12:50	3:30	
		matinee:	late show:	
PG-13	SALT	daily: 8:30		
		matinee:	late show: 11:00	
PG	THE KARATE KID	daily: 12:15	3:15	
		matinee:	late show:	
R	PREDATORS	daily: 6:10	8:45	
		matinee:	late show: 11:30	
PG	GROWN UPS	daily: 12:00	4:45	
		matinee:	2:30	7:00 9:15
PG	THE SORCERER'S APPRENTICE	daily: 5:30	8:00	
		matinee:	12:30 3:00	late show: 11:00
AT PASEO HERENCIA				
G	TOY STORY 3 3D	daily: 4:00	6:30	
		matinee: 1:30	late show:	
PG-13	THE TWILIGHT SAGA: ECLIPSE	daily: 9:00	late show: 11:45	
		matinee:		
PG-13	GROWN UPS	daily: 4:45	7:15	
		matinee: 12:00	2:30	9:30 11:45
PG	THE KARATE KID	daily: 12:30	3:30	
		matinee:	late show:	
PG-13	KNIGHT & DAY	daily: 6:30	9:00	
		matinee:	late show: 11:30	
PG	THE SORCERER'S APPRENTICE	daily: 3:45	6:15	
		matinee: 1:00	late show: 11:15	
PG	DESPICABLE ME 3D	daily: 4:45	2:30	
		matinee: 12:15	late show:	
PG	THE LAST AIRBENDER	daily: 7:00	9:15	
		matinee:	late show: 11:30	
PG-13	SALT	daily: 4:15	6:30	
		matinee:	late show: 11:00	
G	THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG	daily: 12:00	2:00	
		matinee:	late show:	

A relaxation haven at Renaissance Mall

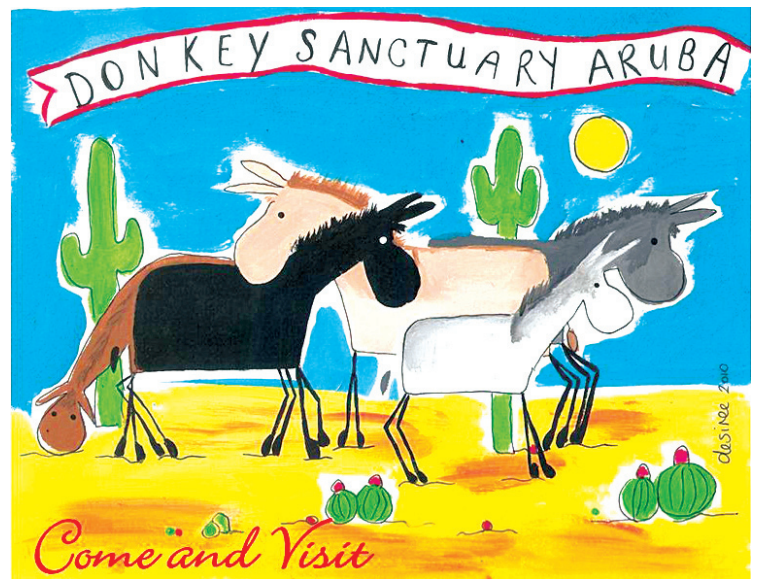
Okeanos SPA pampers concierges



ORANJESTAD, Aruba - Concierges are some of the most knowledgeable people on Aruba to go to for advice on “where to go” and “what to do” while vacationing on the island. To get better acquainted with the pampering services of Okeanos SPA at Renaissance Mall, a group of these Aruba experts were recently invited for a tour of this lovely relaxation haven in downtown Oranjestad.

The gift that made their visit extra pleasant was presented to them during the tour; they were each invited to enjoy two treatments of their choice from a selection of services offered by the SPA including a haircut, mini facial, back massage, reflexology treatment, hair “up do”, makeup session, mini manicure, mini pedicure and a body scrub.

Okeanos SPA management and staff were happy to socialize with and pamper their guests as a special “masha danki” for their ongoing support.



First public meeting regarding the “Aruba Marine Park”



ORANJESTAD - Saturday July 24th 2010 fishing center Hadicurari, which is located between Moomba Beach and the Marriott Surf Club hosted the first public information session regarding the future Aruba Marine Park. The presentation at Hadicurari was very informative and outlined in a very nice slide presentation the current marine environment situation in Aruba, reference to Bonaire as the model marine park in the region and what the vision of the government is regarding the implementation of an Aruba Marine Park. The overall impression is that the presentation was very successful and the public asked many questions regarding the future marine park. A previous article mentioned the fact that one question kept coming up during the evening and that is the concern about the word marine “park”. Many people may be under the impression that the future marine park is or will be an enclosed structure. Hearing the word “park” people may envision an area with a fence and gate. This is not the case. During the presentation it was mentioned that the marine park will have to be based on a law. This law will primarily outline the areas, which will be protected. This doesn’t mean that these areas will be fenced in or that there will be gates through, which you have to enter. If you

look at the current situation, you can reach the water from pretty much anywhere and there are no “barriers”, gates or fences. This will remain so once the marine park is official. So physically there will be no or little changes. The changes that will be visible are the information signs that will be posted in the designated marine park areas. First let’s look at what the marine park will consist of. Many island or countries in the Caribbean have been engaging in marine life protection and marine conservation and preservation. In order for us to understand what the marine park will be we have to know what it is that we are going to protect. Marine parks are designed to protect; marine environment, under water flora and fauna, wetlands, flora and fauna near wetlands or the water and to conserve and preserve these resources in order to prevent further damage or depletion. Marine parks are also used as “tools” to help the government or government agencies to regulate development in particular in the coastal areas, assess and regulate better use for fishing and fishing resources, management of recreation and use of beaches, waters and implement safe standards for every person in the marine park, from fishermen to tourist and everybody else who uses the

marine park designated areas. Our crystal clear “blue” waters are the way they are because the balance between the fish and the coral reef systems also act as natural filters in this process and this is one of the

components that helps to keep the waters clear, which draws thousands of tourist each year and makes the local population go to the beaches on Sunday. The coral reefs have fish living there, which are all part of a marine ecological system and form also part of a food chain. This food chain starts from plankton all the way to the largest ocean predators and each has its part, duty and need to be in the food chain or circle. If one or more of these “fish chains” are missing or are depleted, there will be a misbalance and the fishermen will start to feel this in their daily catch. So looking at just these two examples, we can see that if there is no protection and regulation we will destroy our marine resources and recovery is usually not possible. So to put it simple, we need to protect; the fish, the corals, the ocean,



the beaches and anything that lives near, in or under water, whether it’s an animal or plant. We need to also protect things like wrecks or parts thereof, sites or under water areas because these

may have two purposes. In time these artifacts or areas will become part of the reef and the marine eco-system and or they will have historical, cultural or archeological value for our island. This is why we

need to have a marine park. In general a marine park has to be anchored into a law. Without a law to support the marine park it will just be a “paper park”. The marine park law will allow for the marine park to protect under existing laws these items mentioned above. The marine park will also be outlined in the law. As we mentioned, there is no fence or gate but the areas, which will fall under the marine park law must be outline in the law. The proposed Aruba Marine Park will include the beaches, the territorial waters of Aruba, mangroves, inlets, bays, reef islands, salinas, rock formations near these areas and all government land within these designated areas. This may sound like a big area but when you look at Bonaire or the Great Barrier Reef in Australia, these are marine parks much bigger than what



Aruba will be. Protection in the Aruba Marine Park will have laws but also rules and regulations, which must be obeyed and followed by everyone. Simple but yet difficult things such as no

pollution, no garbage dumping and no loitering are just a few of the things that must and will be enforced. Currently this is still not done by the general public. More beach protection for turtles during breeding season, activities on the beaches, designated activities or zoning areas including no activity or reserve areas must be implemented and enforced. Regulations don’t mean that the public will be limited or prevented from using the marine resources and beaches.

By using public moorings any person may use these without having to damage the coral by dropping anchor. Many tourists seeking warm destinations are looking for destinations with regulations that are; eco-friendly, marine protected, offers safe water sport activities, good visibility in the waters, pristine beaches, large marine life and healthy coral formations. Again the public received the presentation well and the meeting was scheduled to end at ten but questions were still being answered until almost midnight.

The general consensus is very positive towards the implementation of the Aruba Marine Park and based on the information provided. The Aruba Marine Park law is simply most important piece of legislation that Aruba can pass for environmental protection, tourism, the fishing industry and the general public. □



First fantastic effort for Cas di Glas comes from CILO’s super staffers



The entire crew of CILO City Lounge at the Renaissance Marketplace is standing right behind the Cas di Glas (House of Glass) happening and they have decided to make a wonderful gesture towards reaching the event’s goal. From August 1st on, the staffers will put aside AWG. 50,-- of their joint tip money per day. On October 3rd, the final day of the Cas di Glas, the total sum of all these AWG. 50,--’s will be donated. This is the first of hopefully a long list of restaurants, companies and private persons joining in the realizing of the Cas di Glas’ goal: getting a mobile breast

screening unit for the island.

CILO manager Kim D’hondt is super enthusiastic about her team jumping in. “I am bowled over,” she said. The AWG. 50,-- per day donation will be a substantial amount by the time the Cas di Glas event is finished. “I am very proud of my team.” But not only the people on Aruba are getting involved; several well-known international artists have already put out feelers to come and play live on stage at Cas di Glas, and a number of popular deejays from the US are looking forward to come and play here as



well. Arubans living in Holland are getting the information about Cas di Glas as we speak, and a special bank account number will be available for donations from these ‘yiu di tera’.

The Cas di Glas organizing team is really glad with CILO’s first fantastic effort for the Cas di Glas goal. Any firms, restaurants or sports clubs who need assistance in any way to kick-start a fundraising effort, please call Esmeralda Schotman, coordinator of Cas di Glas at 7320836. □

Tony Roma's is the island's headquarters for ribs!

Many restaurants claim to have the best ribs in the land, but only Tony Roma's world famous ribs continue to rack up taste awards from a variety of cities, regions, and countries across the globe. Tony Roma's Palm Beach brings this classic to Aruba.

Great ribs put Tony Roma's on the map, but the menu also features an array of flame-grilled favorites including steaks, seafood and chicken. The menu also serves up fresh salads, fantastic burgers and sandwiches, grilled fresh local fish, mouthwatering desserts and delicious appetizers - especially the popular, made-from-scratch Onion Loaf.

Today, there are more than 240 locations on five continents. From Seattle to Miami, Tokyo to Madrid, and Calgary to Aruba, Tony Roma's is creating an international incident with its flame-grilled fare. Discover why Tony Roma's is now an island dining institution!

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Bow Tie Pasta with Chicken in Scampi Sauce.....	\$12
Chicken Tender Platter.....	\$13
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BOX OFFICE OPENS: 8PM
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WHAT: Comedy Magic, Grand Illusion show.
COST: \$20.00 (under 15), \$35.00 adult
TICKETS: at the door, Box office, Westin Lobby, front desk or all De Palm Tours concierge desks
GROUP SALES: 561-1090

HEALTH

Aruba TODAY

NYC looks to stop spreading bedbug infestations

By SARA KUGLER
FRAZIER,

Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK – One of every 15 New Yorkers battled bedbugs last year, officials said Wednesday as they announced a plan to fight the spreading infestation, including a public-awareness campaign and a top entomologist to head the effort.

The bloodsucking pests, which are not known to spread disease but can cause great mental anguish with their persistent and fast-growing infestations, have rapidly multiplied throughout New York and many other U.S. cities in recent years.

Health officials and pest control specialists nationwide report surges in sightings, bites and complaints. The Environmental Protection Agency hosted its first-ever bedbug summit last year.

In New York City, the pests have been discovered in theaters, clothing stores, office buildings, housing projects and posh apartments.

The stigma of having bedbugs — whose bites leave itchy red welts — and the elusive nature of the pests make it impossible to fully understand the problem, experts say.

But in 2009, for the first time, Mayor Michael Bloomberg's administration included a question about bedbugs on its community health survey, and it revealed the finding to The Associated Press on Wednesday: More than 6 percent of New Yorkers who responded said they had battled the pests in the last year.

The figure would equal roughly 400,000 adults in the city, the health department said.

Data previously has been limited to government



FILE - In this undated photo released by the University of Florida, a common bedbug is engorged with blood after feeding on a human. One of every 15 New Yorkers battled bedbugs last year, officials said Wednesday, July 28, 2010, as they announced a plan to fight the spreading infestation, including a public-awareness campaign and a top entomologist to head the effort.

(AP Photo)

statistics on complaints and surveys of private pest-control companies, which also have reported nationwide spikes.

The Bloomberg administration fielded 537 complaints about the bugs in fiscal 2004. In fiscal 2009, there were nearly 11,000.

"This is happening globally, and I don't think anybody has figured out exactly why," said Daniel Kass, the city's deputy commissioner for environmental health. "So what we're left with is managing them and keeping them from spreading. They're going to be with us for some time."

Bedbugs are about the size of an apple seed and burrow into many more places than beds. They can slip into floor cracks, wall outlets, picture frames, lamps — any tiny space.

People who have bedbugs often never see them. The most obvious signs are bites, blood on bedsheets and their waste, which looks like black pepper. They are known for being extremely difficult to eradicate and can go a year without feeding.

Bedbugs were nearly dormant

for decades, and the recent comeback has experts scratching their heads. Some attribute the resurgence to an increase in global travel and the prohibition of potent pesticides like DDT.

New York convened a government advisory board last year to study the problem and make recommendations.

The report said one major roadblock to stopping the bedbug spread is lack of knowledge about prevention and the patchy and sometimes erroneous information about treatment.

"If you have termites, you know how to deal with it. If you see a rat, you know who to call. This is confusing," said City Council Speaker Christine Quinn. "The biggest issue is lack of clarity and not having any actual sense of what the next step is and where you go to get that."

Carol Gittens said she discovered bedbugs in her Brooklyn apartment two years ago and estimates she has spent at least \$3,000 replacing her things. "We had to throw everything out — mattresses, clothes," she said. □

Damp house linked to kids' risk of nasal allergies

By Amy Norton

Children who live in damp, water-damaged homes may be more likely than other kids to develop nasal allergies, a new study suggests.

Researchers found that of nearly 1,900 Finnish children they followed for six years, those who lived in homes with dampness or mold problems were more likely to develop allergic rhinitis during the study period.

Allergic rhinitis refers to symptoms of congestion, sneezing and runny nose caused by allergens such as pollen, dust, animal dander or mold.

In this study, published in the American Journal of Epidemiology, 16 percent of children whose parents reported dampness in the home went on to be diagnosed with allergic rhinitis over the next six years. That compared with just under 12 percent of children whose parents reported no dampness problems -- that is, no visible signs of water damage to the ceilings, walls or floors, and no visible mold or mold odor in the home.

The researchers weighed a number of factors that might help account for the connection, including families' socioeconomic status (asthma and allergies tend to be common in lower income children) and whether children were also exposed to second-hand smoke.

However, damp, moldy conditions in the home remained linked to an increased risk of children's nasal allergies. Children whose parents reported any mold or water damage in the home at the outset were 55 percent more likely than other children to develop allergic rhinitis -- connected to any allergen, and not just mold.

"Our study strengthens the evidence that exposure to indoor dampness increases the risk of developing allergic rhinitis," lead researcher Dr. Jouni Jaakkola, of the Institute of Health Sciences in Oulu, Finland, told Reuters Health in an email. Previous studies, he said, had measured children's exposure to dampness and mold, and their rates of nasal allergies, all at one time -- making it impossible to tell whether the exposure preceded the allergies' development.

The fact that this study followed children's rates of allergy development over time strengthens the case that household dampness is a risk factor for nasal allergies -- though the findings alone do not prove cause-and-effect. It is still possible that there are other factors that explain the link.

However, Jaakkola said that based on other research, it is plausible that damp conditions in the house contribute to nasal allergies. Such conditions, he noted, encourage the growth of dust mites and fungi, and attract cockroaches -- all of which can serve as allergy triggers. Moisture may also boost the emission of chemicals from building materials, according to Jaakkola, and those chemicals could potentially create inflammation in the airways.

The bottom line for parents, Jaakkola said, is that they would be wise to look out for signs of water damage at home.

"In general, we should try to avoid dampness problems in homes and repair (damage) as soon as the problems appear," he noted, adding that parents of children who already have any form of allergy should be particularly careful to do so. □

What Will Happen During the Next 100 Days of the Oil Spill?



Lauren Cox

Exactly 100 days after an explosion on the Deepwater Horizon offshore oil rig sent an estimated 20,000 to 40,000 barrels of oil per day gushing into the Gulf of Mexico, officials say engineers are on the cusp of completing a final plug on the well.

But scientists say it could take decades to comprehend the toll the last 100 days took on wildlife -- from sea turtles to bacteria.

Workers successfully sealed the Macondo oil well on July 15, stopping the flow of the oil for the first time since the April 20 explosion that killed 11 workers.

The next 100 days will bring further work on the well, with the aim of making sure it doesn't begin leaking again.

National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen told reporters Tuesday that engineers aim to start the "static kill" process of pumping mud and cement down the well by Aug. 2.

Then, about five days after BP confirms that the static kill has successfully overcome the pressure of the uprising oil, Allen said workers will start the "bottom kill" strategy of pumping mud and cement into the well from 15,000 to 17,000 feet (4,570 to 5,180 meters) below the surface - sealing the Macondo well for good.

In the days ahead, the cleanup effort will continue.

"No matter how much oil is on

the water, the commitment to continue this cleanup onshore or in the marshes, to continue to make sure that we all agree on how clean is clean, that we hold BP accountable - this will continue far after the relief well is completed," Allen said in a daily press briefing on July 26.

From the vantage point of research vessels in the Gulf and rescue operations on the coast, scientists told Life's Little Mysteries that it would take years just to assess the damage.

The Gulf's turtles

Efforts to help turtle populations in the Gulf recover will continue during the next 100 days. But the effort will go on because scientists have deemed it a better alternative than leaving the nests where they are.

"This is really unprecedented. We've never seen anything like this in our country," said Barbara Schroeder, National Sea Turtle Coordinator for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Currently, oil covers approximately 638 miles (1,026 kilometers) of Gulf shoreline, according to the Deepwater Horizon Incident Joint Information Center, which represents a collective of government agencies and BP officials.

Birds and sea mammals became the immediate focus of many cleanup crews, as did

the sea turtle eggs buried under the sand waiting to hatch. All five species of sea turtles living in the Gulf of Mexico are endangered, Schroeder said.

Moving the turtle nests carried "significant risks," including killing the eggs. "It's not something that we would ever do under normal circumstances," Schroeder said.

But the coordinated effort to move hundreds of nests to safer waters will continue. So far, scientists have released 460 rescued hatchling turtles onto the east coast of Florida, according to NOAA.

Schroeder said she can only hope that about 35 years from now, when these hatchlings reach maturity, they will still have the same instinct to return

to the beaches where their mothers nested to lay eggs. "These are endangered and threatened species already, any new and significant effects are not what we are looking for," said Schroeder.

The dead zones

The size of the "dead zones," where low oxygen levels cause marine life to languish and die, may grow in the coming days.

Known dead zones in oceans are caused by fertilizer runoff. The fertilizer spurs algae into a feeding frenzy, creating algal blooms that rob the surrounding water of oxygen when they eventually die and decompose, to the point that the area is uninhabitable by fish and other forms of life.

In May, researchers from the University of Texas Marine Science Institute set out to study the existing dead zones and found that oil may also trigger their formation.

When professors Wayne S. Gardner and Zhanfei Liu tested an area they thought to be free of the dead zone effects, they found low oxygen levels.

"It was at our normal control station, which doesn't usually have low oxygen," Gardner said.

Gardner and Liu now hypothesize that floating oil, which can carry hydrocarbons such as methane, is also creating low-oxygen zones in the Gulf in a similar way to algae. Bacteria feeding on

the hydrocarbons may deplete oxygen from the surrounding water.

Then, the bacteria persist when oxygen levels drop because, unlike other forms of marine life, they don't need it to survive.

But because oil can come and go quickly from an area, Gardner and Liu can only test their idea by examining oil in sea floor sediments and oxygen levels there.

"The Gulf, with the warm temperature and the sunshine, can break down the oil really fast," Liu said. "It spreads out, the bacteria attacks the oil really fast. This is not like the oil spill in Alaska."

Hurricanes

Undoubtedly, hurricanes will visit the Gulf within the next 100 days - hurricane season won't end until the beginning of December.

NOAA researchers studied the potential combination of hurricanes and the oil and concluded that "the oil slick is not likely to have a significant impact on the hurricane."

But scientists cannot predict how a hurricane might disperse the oil.

Currently about 9,500 personnel and more than 3,700 vessels -- including skimmers, tugs and barges -- are working in cleanup efforts, according to the Deepwater Horizon Incident Joint Information Center. □





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Aruba TODAY

Publisher John Chemaly Sr.	Editor-in-Chief Julia C. Renfro
Managing Director John A. Chemaly Jr.	Contributing Editors Angela Muzenhofer Dilma Arends
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Caribbean Speed Printing N.V. Weststraat #22 Oranjestad, Aruba Tel: (297) 582-7800 Fax: (297) 582-7044	Sales Team Elly Erasmus Marijke Croes Wendy Kelkboom Page Designer Dina Maria
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Obama Ignores Warnings on Afghanistan—Going Back to November 2008

Greg Mitchell

At my Daybook today I link to a remarkable Garry Wills blog item at The New York Review of Books site, in which he reveals that he is breaking a kind of embargo a year after he and other historians had dinner with President Obama. It seems that most of them warned him about the “folly” of continuing/escalating in Afghanistan—and Wills is sad and angry that the President didn’t listen one bit.

But warnings to Obama from reputable people had come long before that. The New York Times, for example, assembled a group of them who raised serious questions in November 2008, just three weeks after Obama won election.

White House, Barack Obama called long and often for sending many more troops to Afghanistan (even before we withdrew quite a few from Iraq). It was a required thing to say on the campaign trail to show toughness and also to make the politically winning point that President Bush had fought the wrong war, in Iraq, when we had not yet cleaned out Afghanistan.

Did he really mean it, many wondered? If so, was it really the right thing to do, especially with our chief national security threat now coming from within—in the form of our economic crisis?

The New York Times in late November 2008 presented a host of op-eds on Iraq and Afghanistan, including one from a guy named Rumsfeld and another from someone called Chalabi. The ones related to the Afghan conflict should have raised questions for readers, and I hope, the Obama team. Just as the new pieces appeared, the Karzai government revealed that Obama had called the nation’s leader and pledged to increase US support. And the NATO commander said he wanted to nearly double troop strength there.

The previous August, I devoted a column to this subject after a brief flurry of front-page articles on Afghanistan arrived to mark US deaths there finally hitting the 500 mark. The war in Afghanistan, long overlooked, was now getting more notice, I observed, before asking: “But does that mean the US, finally starting (perhaps) to dig out of Iraq, should now commit to another open-ended war, even for a good cause, not so far away?”

Nearly everyone in the media, and on the political stage, still called this the “good war.” Few voices in the mainstream media—and even in the liberal blogosphere—had tackled this subject, partly because of long arguing for the need to take on Afghanistan as opposed to the “bad war” in Iraq. But now some commentators were starting to sound off on the dangers.

Thomas Friedman, more prescient here that he’d been on Iraq, had just warned, “The main reason we are losing in Afghanistan is not because there are too few American soldiers, but because there are not enough Afghans ready to fight and die for the kind of government we want....Obama needs to ask himself honestly: “Am I for sending more troops to Afghanistan because I really think we can win there, because I really think that that will bring an end to terrorism, or am I just doing it because to get elected in America, post-9/11, I have to be for winning some war?”

Then, in that post-election op-ed group—none of them lefty peaceniks—the New York Times offered hard-boiled Anthony Cordesman, senior fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, who warned: “Leaks of a new National Intelligence Estimate have shown that we are now losing the war for several reasons: a lack of Afghan competence;

a half-hearted Pakistani commitment to the fight; a shortage of American, NATO and International Security Assistance Force troops; too few aid workers; and nation-building programs that were designed for peacetime and are rife with inefficiency and fraud.”

Rory Slaughter, former British Foreign Service officer: “Afghanistan does not matter as much as Barack Obama thinks. Terrorism is not the key strategic threat facing the United States. America, Britain and our allies have not created a positive stable environment in the Middle East. We have no clear strategy for dealing with China. The financial crisis is a more immediate threat to United States power and to other states; environmental catastrophe is more dangerous for the world. And even from the perspective of terrorism, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia are more lethal.

“President-elect Obama’s emphasis on Afghanistan and his desire to send more troops and money there is misguided. Overestimating its importance distracts us from higher priorities, creates an unhealthy dynamic with the government of Afghanistan and endangers the one thing it needs—the stability that might come from a patient, limited, long-term relationship with the international community....

“When the decision was made to increase troops in 2005, there was no insurgency. But as NATO became increasingly obsessed with transforming the country and brought in more money and troops to deal with corruption and the judiciary, warlords and criminals, insecurity in rural areas and narcotics, it failed. In fact, things got worse. These new NATO troops encountered a fresh problem—local Taliban resistance—which has drawn them into a counterinsurgency campaign.”

And finally, Donald Rumsfeld—you remember him—former secretary of defense: “The way forward in Afghanistan will need to reflect the current circumstances there—not the circumstances in Iraq two years ago. Additional troops in Afghanistan may be necessary, but they will not, by themselves, be sufficient to lead to the results we saw in Iraq. A similar confluence of events that contributed to success in Iraq does not appear to exist in Afghanistan....

“Left unanswered in the current debate is the critical question of how thousands of additional American troops might actually bring long-term stability to Afghanistan—a country 80,000 square miles larger than Iraq yet with security forces just one-fourth the size of Iraq’s. Afghanistan also lacks Iraq’s oil and other economic advantages. It is plagued by the narcotics trade. Its borders are threatened by terrorist sanctuaries in Pakistan. Fractured groups of Pashtun tribesmen on both sides of the Afghanistan-Pakistan border do not yet appear willing to unite and take on the insurgents in their midst, as Arab tribes did in Iraq.

“Further, Afghanistan has a long history of defeating foreign armies that sought strength in numbers. The Soviet Union tried to occupy Afghanistan with hundreds of thousands of troops—and withdrew, defeated and broken. More United States troops could raise tensions, particularly in Afghanistan’s Pashtun south, where the insurgency is strongest.”

Today, the media is filled with new warnings—from a GOP congressman in Utah to Maureen Dowd. But Obama has heard it all before, going back to, as we’ve seen, November 2008. Clearly a stronger outcry—in Congress, in the media, in the streets—is now required.

Protestan en Arizona pese a fallo contra ley que criminaliza la inmigración ilegal

PHOENIX (AP) - Cientos de activistas protagonizaron protestas pacíficas el jueves en Arizona contra la ley que criminaliza la inmigración ilegal, a pesar de la decisión de una jueza de suspender las cláusulas más objetadas de la medida.

Decenas de manifestantes encararon a policías antimotines en Phoenix y no opusieron resistencia al ser arrestados. Frente al Capitolio estatal, cientos de manifestantes iniciaron una marcha al amanecer, congregándose primero frente al tribunal donde la jueza Susan Bolton emitió su fallo el miércoles y luego trasladándose al cuartel policial del condado de Maricopa, cuyo jefe policial Joe Arpaio ha dado énfasis a la lucha contra la inmigración ilegal.

Por lo menos ocho activistas caminaron hacia la escuadra policial y se dejaron arrestar. Una veintena de manifestantes se sentaron en medio de la calle y se negaron a irse, y fueron removidos por los agentes también.

Horas antes, tres personas fueron arrestadas en el tribunal tras infiltrarse en una zona restringida, entre ellas el ex senador estatal Alfredo Gutiérrez, quien fue candidato



Parte de la valla que separa a Nogales, Arizona, de Nogales, México, la noche del martes 27 de julio de 2010. (Foto AP/Jae C. Hong)

a gobernador en el 2002.

Los manifestantes coreaban “Sheriff Joe, aquí estamos, no viviremos con miedo”. Uno de ellos tenía una cabeza de Arpaio hecha de papier-maché y estaba disfrazado de presidiario. Una mujer fue arrestada frente a la oficina del jefe policial.

Arpaio dijo que si los manifestantes no se comportaban serían arrestados y juró hacer una barrida contra el crimen teniendo como blanco a los inmigrantes ilegales.

“Mis agentes los arrestarán y les

podrán ropa interior rosada”, dijo Arpaio, refiriéndose a uno de sus extraños métodos de castigo contra los prisioneros. “Cuenten con esto”. Arizona se preparaba para pedirle a un tribunal de apelaciones que anule el fallo que suspendió las partes básicas de la nueva ley.

La gobernadora de Arizona, Jan Brewer, dijo que la decisión anunciada el miércoles por la jueza Bolton “es un bache en el camino” y prometió apelar. El vocero de Brewer, Paul Senseman, dijo que Arizona le pediría más tarde el jueves a

la corte federal de apelaciones del noveno circuito, en San Francisco, que suspenda las medidas cautelares ordenadas por Bolton y que acelere el examen de la apelación presentada por el estado.

Brewer firmó en abril la ley que reavivó el debate nacional sobre la inmigración meses antes de las elecciones legislativas de noviembre próximo.

La jueza Bolton estimó que el gobierno del presidente Barack Obama tiene buenas posibilidades de triunfar con su argumento de que la ley de

inmigración federal prevalece sobre la ley estatal.

Sin embargo, el promotor clave de la ley de Arizona, el representante republicano Russell Pearce, opinó que la jueza se equivocó y pronosticó que el estado ganará el caso al final.

En su fallo cautelar, Bolton retrasó la aplicación de las disposiciones más controvertidas de la ley, incluso una que obligada a la Policía a que solicitara la licencia de conducir, pasaporte u otro documento de identidad de una persona si tenía razones para sospechar que ingresó sin documentos al país.

Los agentes debían realizar tal control de inmigración luego de detener a una persona mientras hacían cumplir otras leyes u ordenanzas.

La jueza Bolton también puso en suspenso partes de la ley que obligaban a los inmigrantes legales a portar sus documentos en todo momento y que prohibía a los trabajadores indocumentados solicitar trabajo en lugares públicos, como en estacionamientos. La jueza también prohibió a los policías estatales que detengan sin orden judicial a sospechosos de ser inmigrantes sin documentos. □

Crisis Colombia-Venezuela, sin soluciones a la vista

QUITO (Reuters) - Los cancilleres sudamericanos buscarán el jueves sentar en la mesa a Colombia y Venezuela para que resuelvan su creciente crisis diplomática, pero Bogotá mira con escepticismo la reunión y especialistas dudan que sean limadas las asperezas.

Colombia insistirá en la cumbre de la Unión de Naciones Suramericanas (Unasur) - convocada para tratar el conflicto entre los dos países andinos- que se investiguen las denuncias que hizo ante la Organización de Estados Americanos (OEA) de que Venezuela da cobijo a 1.500

guerrilleros izquierdistas.

Esas acusaciones la semana pasada despertaron la ira del presidente venezolano, Hugo Chávez, que rompió las relaciones diplomáticas con su vecino poniendo en alerta a sus fuerzas armadas, en la peor crisis entre los países en dos décadas. Antes de la cumbre extraordinaria de la Unasur en Quito, los cancilleres de Colombia, Jaime Bermúdez, y de Venezuela, Nicolás Maduro, se reunirán con su colega ecuatoriano por separado para plantear posturas previo al debate por la tarde.

“Vamos a encontrar los mínimos (acuerdos)

indispensables para que se puedan sentar juntos en una mesa a conversar con el apoyo de los países sudamericanos”, dijo el canciller ecuatoriano, Ricardo Patiño, en una entrevista televisada.

A pesar de los esfuerzos de los cancilleres sudamericanos, Colombia no cree que la reunión dé frutos ni que su pedido de corroborar sus denuncias tenga eco en el organismo, porque varios de sus integrantes simpatizan con el socialista Chávez.

“Realmente no tengo mayor expectativa”, dijo el colombiano Bermúdez a la radio Caracol, a la vez que



Imagen de archivo del canciller colombiano, Jaime Bermúdez, llegando a una conferencia de prensa en la oficina de la Comunidad Andina de Lima. Jul 22 2010. REUTERS/Enrique Castro-Mendivil /ARCHIVO

aseguró que varios cancilleres de la región mandaron a funcionarios de segundo nivel y que incluso el secretario

general de la Unasur, el ex presidente argentino Néstor Kirchner, no asistirá a la cita □

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